

CAROLINA COUNTRY

Official publication of North Carolina's electric cooperatives

Looking at
our small towns

June 29, No.9, September 1997

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(By J. Robson)

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CAROLINA COUNTRY

FEATURES

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Small towns with big ideas and big hearts are what made this nation great. This month we report on what some of North Carolina's best are doing to keep themselves vital, and how others got their names.

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Inside the City Barber Shop, Mount Airy, N.C. This real, small-town barber shop — famous for good haircuts and photos of customers — was the model for Floyd's Barber Shop in "The Andy Griffith Show." Mount Airy's "Mayberry Days" festival takes place Sept. 25-27. (Photo courtesy of the N.C. Dept. of Travel and Tourism)



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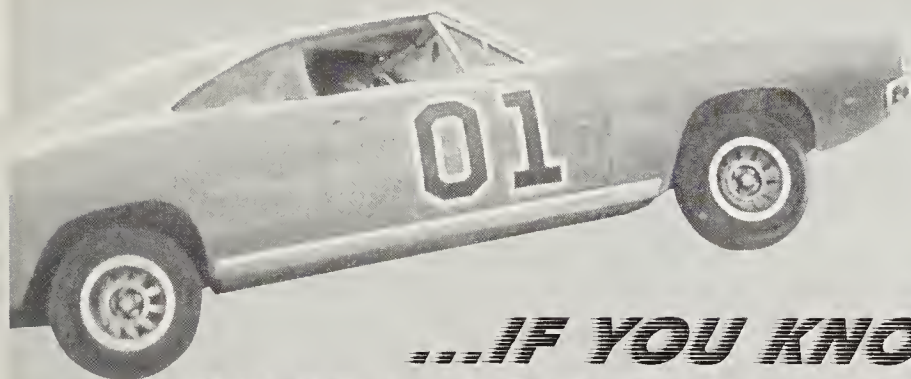
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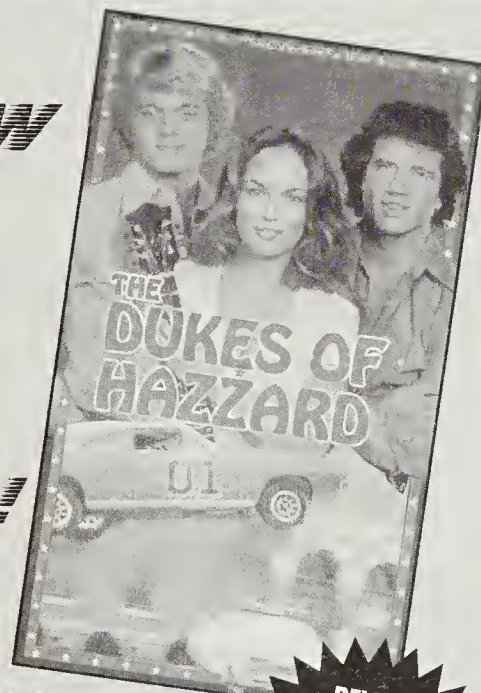


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The core values of small communities

by Travis Davis



We keep hearing that North Carolina is growing, and I know it's true. Our population is rising in many areas of the state, and overall our economy is strong. North Carolina is a good place to raise a family, attend school and do business.

But ours is still a rural state. Small towns, farms and open country define almost all of eastern and western North Carolina. Most of us need a car or truck to get from home to work. Many of us travel long distances every day. And when we need to go to a city – for business, research, major health care, or for special shopping and events – it's usually a big deal.

Maybe one of the reasons North Carolina is a good place to live and work is that we hold on to our rural values. How often do you hear city residents complain about the stress of urban life? They look forward to vacations or a few days when they can get away and enjoy some peace and quiet, fresh air, pure water and maybe a slower pace of conversation.

That's how life is on Harkers Island. Small town, country values formed this place, and I don't know of many people who would want it otherwise. We welcome people from cities who visit here and stay here, and most of them come because they like this place as it is. We all know that things change, and most of the time we have to change right along. But we'll do our best to keep that small-town core.

What's in that core? The main thing is an understanding of your neighbors. You can't help but see the same people on a regular basis, even if you just pass one another on the road. And eventually you begin to care about them, ask how they're doing, and wish them well. You find yourself working together at the school or the church, or you read about one another in the local paper. When Harkers Island people need to go to Raleigh, usually they

Travis Davis is manager of Harkers Island Electric Membership Corporation, serving 1,200 members on Harkers Island.

can find someone who needs a ride there or can offer to drive. While this familiarity is the best thing in the world when you need a lift or a shoulder to cry on, it sometimes grows into disagreement. But in a small town or rural county, you sooner or later settle that disagreement face to face, and everyone involved ends up stronger because of it. That's why it's called a tight-knit community.

Just because many of us have faith in small town values, however, does not mean we reject the idea of growth. In fact, we are among the first to speak out in favor of economic justice for all, fair treatment from government and business, and real progress in education. Rural areas too often are neglected when it comes to sharing the wealth, because our numbers appear small. But when you consider everything, you must realize that rural places benefit the whole state as much as city institutions benefit country people. As manager of a rural electric cooperative – the smallest cooperative in the state – I can tell you that the core of a cooperative is similar to the core of a small town. We understand where we came from, who all we serve, and what we must do to keep up with the times. We help out one another.

We respond to the needs of our members. And most of all, we listen to our neighbors, and respect them, no matter who they are.



Helping out one another on Harkers Island.

How are we doing?

Our August feature stories "Education in North Carolina: How Are We Doing?" drew comments from all sides of the issue. Three callers described the article "How Healthy Are North Carolina Schools?" as "propaganda" from the Governor's office. One of those callers did not identify himself. Another said he would write us a letter. The third, Pat Quevara of Davidson County, said anyone can use statistics to make themselves look good."

We also received the following letters on the subject.

I have just finished the August 1997 edition of Carolina Country and wish to express my appreciation. The featured articles on education are the best I have read. I now fully understand Gov. Jim Hunt's Excellent Schools Act, the advances that North Carolina is making in the various educational components and many other phases of our state's educational efforts.

Gurd C. Sandzen
Nehurst

Your articles on "Education in North Carolina" were very encouraging. However, there was one aspect of the education picture which was not mentioned. Home education in North Carolina has risen dramatically during the past decade with over 14,000 home-schooling families in the state today. Research shows that home educated children, on average score at or above the 80th percentile on standardized achievement tests.

Tudy Rogers
Canton

For information concerning home education in North Carolina, contact the N.C. Division of Non-Public Education, 530 North Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC 27604-1198.



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More Power to You

Consumers can help plan future electric co-op service

Over the next few months, about 31,900 members of North Carolina's electric cooperatives will be asked to help plan the future of their electric service. In an increasingly competitive league, cooperatives must continuously sharpen their focus and improve services in order to provide the best possible electric service at the most economical price. As member-owners, it is natural for co-op consumers to be involved.

Most consumers (about 27,000) will receive in the mail a survey about their household electricity usage. An additional 4,900 will be called by telephone.

All information will be kept confidential. The information will not be given to other agencies or used to sell goods and services. Anyone who is surveyed may choose not to respond, but cooperatives encourage full responses so that future service decisions can be based on as much consumer help as possible.

Members who receive the four-page mail survey will be given the name of a contact person at their electric cooperative who can help. Completed surveys are returnable by a postage-paid envelope.

Households were not chosen by name. They were chosen from a scientific random sample.

Participation in any of the surveys this fall will help your cooperative:

- Plan for an adequate power supply at the lowest possible cost.
- Provide the services members need and want.
- Forecast the need for future power supply and facilities.
- Maintain financial stability.

New Hampshire consumers stand by their local utility

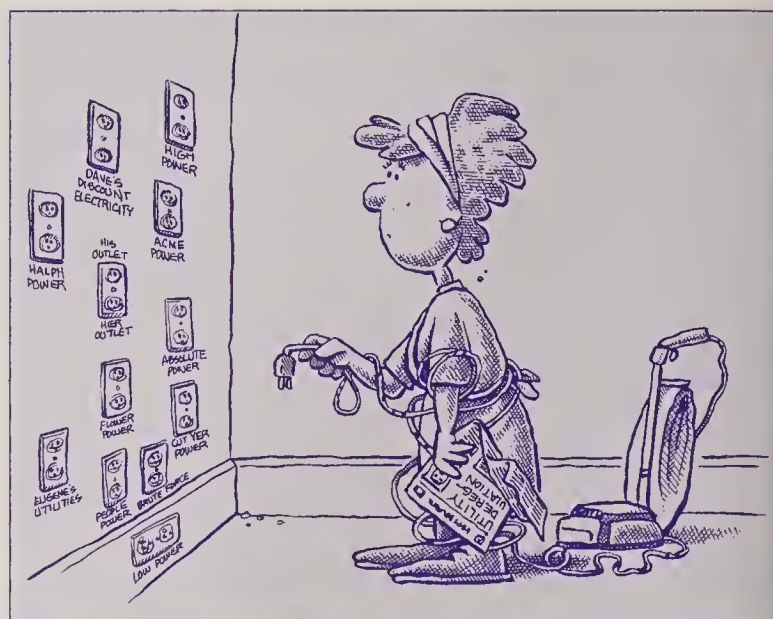
When consumers in New Hampshire were offered an opportunity to choose their power supplier as part of a deregulation pilot program, many of them elected to make no change at all.

Ignoring an avalanche of marketing come-ons from suppliers in various states, one-third of the eligible consumers stuck with their local utility and continued paying the usual rates.

One of them was Kate Champley of Concord, N. H., who said her telephone "rang off the hook during dinner with calls from different electric suppliers trying to convince me to switch, just like long-distance companies do. I have had more than enough of that."

The large majority who stayed with their local utility – whether they shopped around for power or not – did so for one main reason: local service.

Jane Harlow of Lebanon, N. H., expressed the sentiment of many who stood pat: "Why should I go with a new company? I've had good experience with my power company – they've never failed me."



NC Care urges citizens to be "Consumers for Affordable, Reliable Electricity"

With deregulation in the minds of state and federal legislators and regulators, residential users and small businesses must be prepared to protect their interests. While deregulation of utilities will probably help large industrial customers, it could mean confusion and cost shifting to smaller electric customers.

NC Care (North Carolina Consumers for Affordable, Reliable Electricity) was formed recently to help residential and small business customers educate themselves about deregulation and become involved in the decision making process. Large industries already are well organized to promote deregulation of electric power in North Carolina. Although the industry groups' request to the state Utilities Commission to change regulations relating to the generation and sale of electricity was denied on the basis of insufficient evidence of need or experience in other states, the discussion is far from over.

NC Care was organized by Mary Horne Odom of Scotland County. She is a former state representative and state senator, and served on the state legislative committee of the American Association of Retired Persons.

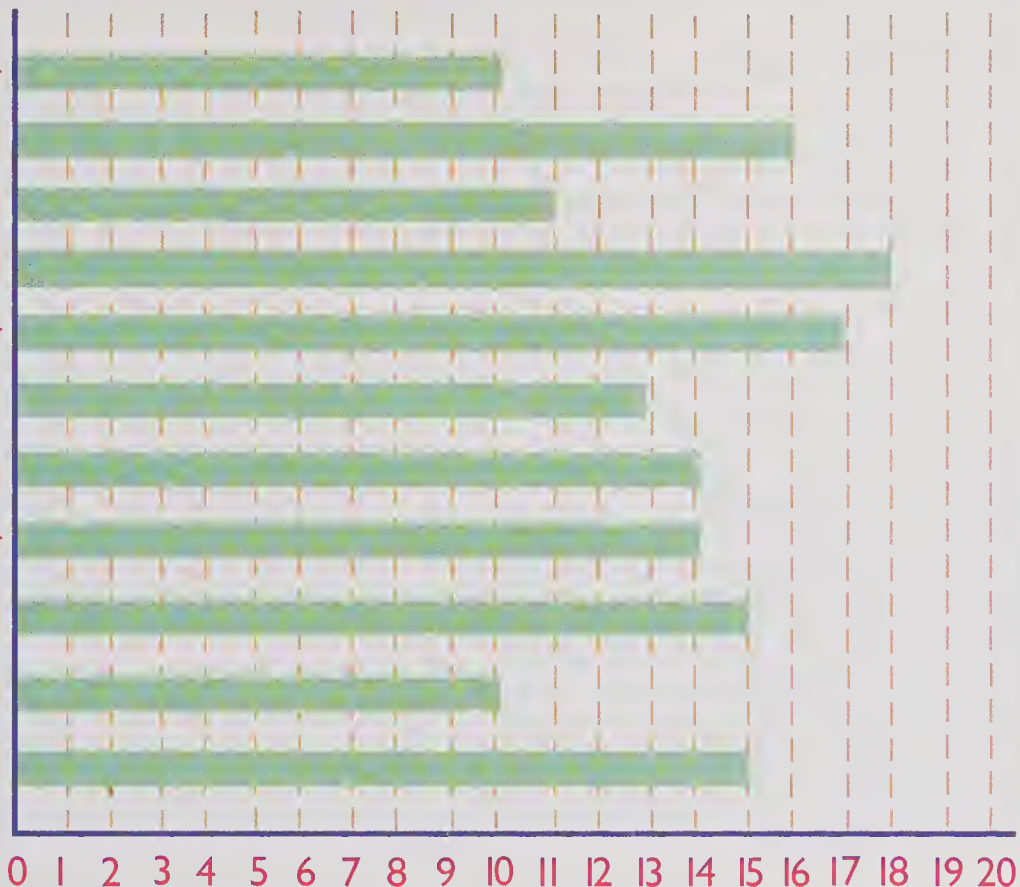
"Our legislators have shown good sense in putting the issue of deregulation of electricity into a study commission," she said. "Everyone will have an opportunity to examine this complex issue and make reasonable and prudent decisions about how to best manage this very essential service."

Interested citizens are invited to join NC Care. Contact NC Care at Box 7, Wagram, NC 28396. Phone: (910) 369-2362. Fax: (910) 369-4702.

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How Long Things Last

Are you thinking about buying a new range for your home, but it seems like so much money to spend? Relax and take another approach: Consider how long the appliance will last, which is 17 to 19 years. Then, take the price and divide it by the number of years the range will last (let's say 18). It seems like a bargain now, right?

The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) surveyed experts in various fields and came up with figures that show, on average, how long just about anything and everything around your home should last. NAHB got information from trade associations, manufacturers, installers, and repair people to calculate the life expectancy of dozens of items used in a home. These experts often qualified their answers, noting variations in life expectancy due to several factors.

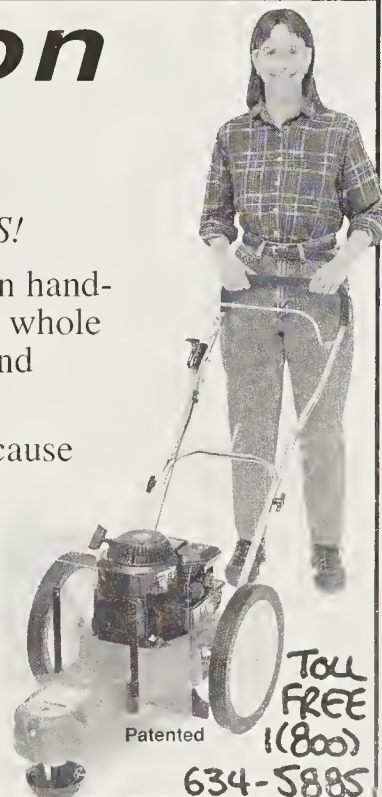
These factors include changing tastes (did you keep your avocado-colored range for 18 years?), proper installation and maintenance (very important), changing technology (causing the consumer to buy a new item before the old one is worn out), weather conditions and quality of a product.

Shown above are some items that should be of interest to member-consumers of electric co-ops. For a copy of the report, call NAHB in Washington, D.C., at (202) 822-0254.

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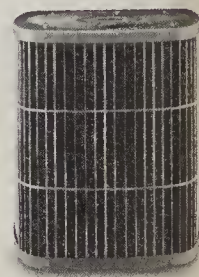
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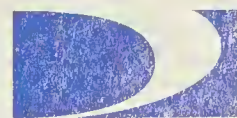
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Six small towns share what works for them

What's good for Mars Hill may be good for West Jefferson

Text and photos by Elizabeth Hunter

In the half century that Dale Baldwin has done business in West Jefferson, he's seen downtown revitalization projects "get started and fizzle out." But he thinks his town is onto something different this time.

"I can't put my finger on why, exactly, but so far everything is falling into line," says Baldwin, who is a West Jefferson town councilman as well as proprietor of the Hallmark Shop downtown. Across Jefferson Avenue from his shop is Danna Little at work in her hair

salon, one of two downtown businesses owned by this young mother of three. And then there's Vivian Shatley Miller in her real estate office showing photographs of houses to a retired couple hoping to relocate to Ashe County. Up the street, workers are removing the old facade from a hardware store so that the

Ashe Federal Bank can convert it into its corporate headquarters.

Dale Baldwin, Danna Little and Vivian Shatley Miller are part of the self-appointed Revitalization Committee for West Jefferson, a mountain town of about 1,100 people. Among other things, the committee is interested in blending the town's historical character with its contemporary business needs.

When the West Jefferson committee told Ashe Federal bank officials that they wanted to give the town an early 20th century look, the bank's president and CEO Jim Todd liked the idea and agreed to make his headquarters the revitalization's flagship project. "The success or failure of downtown renewal lies in how committed we local business people are to it," Todd says. "We've been in business here since 1939, and are happy to lead the way."

Every month or so, the West Jefferson group piles into a car and drives to Asheville to meet with counterparts from Bakersville, Mars Hill, Andrews, Chimney Rock and Robbinsville—five other small towns engaged in a similar mission. Together they are the Small Towns Project — people reviving their hometowns because they love them and are proud of where they live and work. They don't want to see their communities shrivel and die—or turn into touristy "theme towns" like Helen, Ga.

The Small Towns Project grew out of western North Carolina's HandMade in America program two years ago with help from a \$50,000 gift from the Kathleen Price Bryan Family Foundation. It was designed to revitalize communities too small to qualify for the national Main Street USA program.

Each of the six communities is different: Mars Hill is a college town, Chimney Rock began as little more than a string of commercial establishments, Bakersville is a county seat. But their citizens have discovered, somewhat to their surprise, that they share a great deal of common ground

"We come from towns so small we can hang our 'Welcome' and 'Hurry Back' signs on the same post."

Lee Roy Ledford,
Bakersville



And their collaboration as the Small Towns Project is already showing results.

- Despite a disastrous flood last fall and a fire that leveled a historic inn this spring, Chimney Rock is developing mini-parks and a riverwalk through picturesque Hickory Nut Gorge.
- New businesses are opening in long-empty buildings in Andrews.
- A quarter-mile "Cane Creek Walk" is taking shape along the shaded banks of the stream running through Bakersville.
- Mars Hill's new gazebo is a first step toward establishing the town as the "Gateway to Madison County"—a role thrust upon it by construction of a nearby interstate. Town and gown are working together as never before, implementing strategic, corridor and streetscape plans that will keep Mars Hill from becoming "just another interstate interchange," vows town manager Darhyl Boone.

Looking in their own back yard

I began attending Small Towns get-togethers in March—the first meeting for Robbinsville and West Jefferson, who had just been admitted to the project. HandMade director Becky Anderson's enthusiasm for all of HandMade's programs is boundless, but she harbors a special fondness for the Small Towns Project. "Come to one of our meetings. You'll love it," she told me.

"I spent 20 years covering meetings as a reporter," I said, "and I never attended one I can honestly say I loved."

"Ours are different," she said.

And she was right.

lands — Anderson recites her mantra: "We who live in western North Carolina are our own best resources, our most highly qualified consultants. We have good ideas in spades, right here in our mountains."

The meetings are proof of that. When someone asks how to get folks to pitch in and help, Darhyl Boone suggests, "Pick a highly visible project and finish it. That'll get people excited." A Robbinsville residents agrees. "Seventy-nine people turned out for our town cleanup because we advertised it by saying, 'if you don't like to sit around and listen to a lot of talk, come on out and push a broom.'" Chimney Rock invited 300 Warren Wilson College students to spend a day working on cleanup, painting and other projects — with an end-of-the day community dinner as reward.

HandMade plans to use that event as a challenge to other private colleges in the region. "Hosting a work day is a great way to educate college kids about your communi-



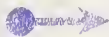
ty — and is more meaningful competition than seeing who can make the biggest pizza or spend the most consecutive hours rocking in a chair," Becky Anderson says.

One strength of the Small Towns Project is the momentum that towns who are sailing along provide for others when they hit roadblocks. "Everybody experiences frustrations," says Andrews resident Ann Woodford. "But no matter how bad you feel when you arrive at one of these meetings, you feel great by the time you leave. They're a great shot in the arm."

And extraordinary friendships have developed between people who a couple of years ago had barely heard of one another's towns. When news of Chimney Rock's flood hit the airwaves, Becky Anderson immediately received calls from Bakersville, Andrews and Mars Hill, asking what they could do to help.



For one thing, they're like family reunions (with a shot of old-time revival thrown in). Hugs and pecks on the cheek are more frequent greetings than handshakes. And at least once each session, when someone suggests consulting a community in Tennessee, South Carolina — even in the Tar Heel flat-



To develop its revitalization plan, each town hosted a weeklong visit from a "resource team" of western North Carolina downtown development specialists who looked the community over, assessing its strengths and weaknesses, then interviewed local government officials and ordinary citizens about what they liked and disliked about their home town — and their visions for its future. At the end of the week, the team outlined its findings at a public meeting, then incorporated them into a written report.

Someone from Chimney Rock dubbed the reports "cookbooks," and the name stuck. "We are waiting with open arms for ours," a West Jefferson resident said at a recent meeting. "In the meantime, how do we choose our 'sister community?'" (another essential ingredient in the Small Towns Project revitalization "recipe").

"Be sure to pick a town with a good restaurant," someone quipped.

"Choose a town with whom you have something in common," Mars Hill's Ray Rapp advised. Mars Hill chose Black Mountain, another college town, largely because of its proximity to an interstate. Black Mountain told Mars Hill to talk with developers who are buying up property along the interstate route. Businesses near interstate highways tend to favor huge signs high in the sky—not necessarily what residents interested in preserving "our little community and the emerald ring around it" want to gaze at instead of the moon and the Milky Way, Rapp said. But he thinks Mars Hill people and the developers can reach common ground. "It's going to take work," he says. "We're coming to the table from very different places. But we have a special chance right now to build bridges, to deal with common concerns before they become problems, to look at ways we can benefit one another."

Roanoke River communities prepare to show their stuff

The Roanoke River Partners, based in Windsor, has begun a regional downtown revitalization project with nine towns in northeast North Carolina: Bear Grass, Jackson, Lewistown-Woodville, Littleton, Plymouth, Roanoke Rapids, Weldon, Williamston and Windsor.

Called "Downtown Down East," the project is intended to assist in revitalization work and strengthen the sense of community. Towns will share experience and resources. "With current resources so scarce, regional cooperation is vital," said LeAnn Davis, project coordinator.

Roanoke River Partners will serve as a center of information and resources. Downtown Down East will focus on organization, promotion, design and economic restructuring. Organizations engaged to help include the state Division of Community Assistance, the N.C. Historic Preservation Office, Cooperative Extension, NC CAN DO, Shantytown and Resourceful Communities. NC CAN DO is associated with the N.C. State University design school and applies computer images to help people envision downtown designs. Shantytown, based in

Greenville, helps develop programs involving regional African-American traditions

and culture. Resourceful Communities, based in Chapel Hill, is a Conservation Trust program involved in community revitalization.

Downtown Down East citizens will tour nearby towns which have undergone the revitalization process, including Farmville and Washington. They also will join in workshops, develop a vision, goals and a master plan, secure matching funds and grant opportunities, and schedule community meetings.

The Roanoke River Partners is a non-profit (501c3) organization, formed of citizens, organizations and businesses, that has helped communities along the lower Roanoke River since 1995 to improve economic, environmental and social vitality. Communities are in Bertie, Halifax, Martin, Northampton, and Washington counties. The Partners promote small businesses and facilitate community projects that highlight and sustainably use natural, historic and cultural resources. One focus is on historic, cultural and nature-based tourism, such as a sightseeing stroll through small towns, a tour of African-American heritage sites, and a three-day canoe trip for birdwatchers through the swamp forests.

For more information, contact LeAnn Davis or Jamey Gerlaugh, executive director of RRP, at (919) 794-2793, or at PO Box 488, 102 N. York St., Windsor, NC 27983. E-mail address is rrp@coastalnet.com.

County contacts are Tim Ivey, Bertie County, (919) 794-5301; Richard Clark, Historic Halifax, (919) 583-7191; Crystal Baity, Martin County Travel & Tourism, (800)-776-8566; David Fogarty, NC Cooperative Extension in Jackson, (919) 534-2711; and Ross Steckley, Washington County, (919) 791-0001.



Hamlet — the centennial town

A century ago, when the state of North Carolina chartered this town, Hamlet was no more than a hamlet.

In fact, 24 years before its 1897 incorporation, John Shortridge, an Englishman who had set up a woolen mill here, said, "In my native country of England, a cluster of houses is called a hamlet. And even though this settlement is not a hamlet, yet I believe someday it will be, and even maybe a city."

Thus Hamlet became Hamlet, and in due time, a city. Today Hamlet is a proud place of some 6,800 residents in Richmond County on Marks Creek at the confluence of highways and railroads. In its 100 years, it has taken on all the obligations, prowess and problems that at some time or another come to all municipalities. Most recently, Hamlet has steadfastly reinforced its image after a tragic fire at a chicken processing plant.

For much longer, however, Hamlet was known as the "Hub of the Seaboard," acclaimed for its devotion to the railroad industry, its moderate climate and energetic work force.

In the early 1800s, this was barren land along Marks Creek. Traders passing through described the area as "like a desert." In 1857, Angus McKinnon, a Scotchman from nearby Moore County, purchased 200 acres here and built the first house. John Shortridge, of Rockingham, established his mill in the late 1800s and worked hard to get a railroad through here. Rails were planned from Raleigh to Augusta, Ga., and Shortridge wanted to make sure they passed through his "hamlet."

After receiving its charter on Feb. 9, 1897, Hamlet grew as railroad workers settled in the town. Businesses prospered as trains en route between New York and Florida brought passengers through. The Shortridge Mill, meanwhile, produced woolen fabric that was carried by wagon to Fayetteville, then shipped out of Wilmington.

Hamlet's first post office was established on May 4, 1876, in the Shortridge home with John's son Frank as postmaster. T. B. Pace built a general merchandise store, and Hamlet's main street further developed with a grocery store, meat market, a bank and Luck's saloon.

By 1900, Hamlet's population of 639 people occupied 138 houses. There was a

mayor, four commissioners and a policeman. The next three decades brought tremendous growth as rail traffic increased. By 1936 the town was dubbed the "Hub of the Seaboard" with five Seaboard Railroad Lines leading out of Hamlet and about 30 passenger trains leaving each day.

Today, the Railroad Passenger Station is registered as a Historic Landmark and is said to be the most photographed station in the eastern United States. The National Railroad Museum and Hall of Fame are housed in the station where artifacts and photographs of the era of railroading are displayed. The railroad continues to play an important role in Hamlet as freight trains stop for maintenance at the CSX Transportation Maintenance Shop.

Another attraction is the renovated birthplace of jazz musician and composer John Coltrane (1926-1967). The annual Seaboard Festival Day occurs on the last Saturday in October. The festival features arts and crafts, live entertainment, railroad car displays and lots of southern cooking.

Hamlet started celebrating its centennial in February of this year, and continues with events every month. Events through December include: Centennial Jazz Concert, Sept. 20; Richmond County Agricultural Fair, Oct. 6-11; Seaboard Festival, Oct. 25; Homecoming at Local Churches, Oct. 26; Life-styles of Yesteryear, Nov. 8; Community Thanksgiving Services, Nov. 23; Centennial Christmas Cantata, Dec. 6, and Lighting of the Community Christmas Tree.

To find out more about the city and centennial, call (910) 582-3477.

— Carol Clayton



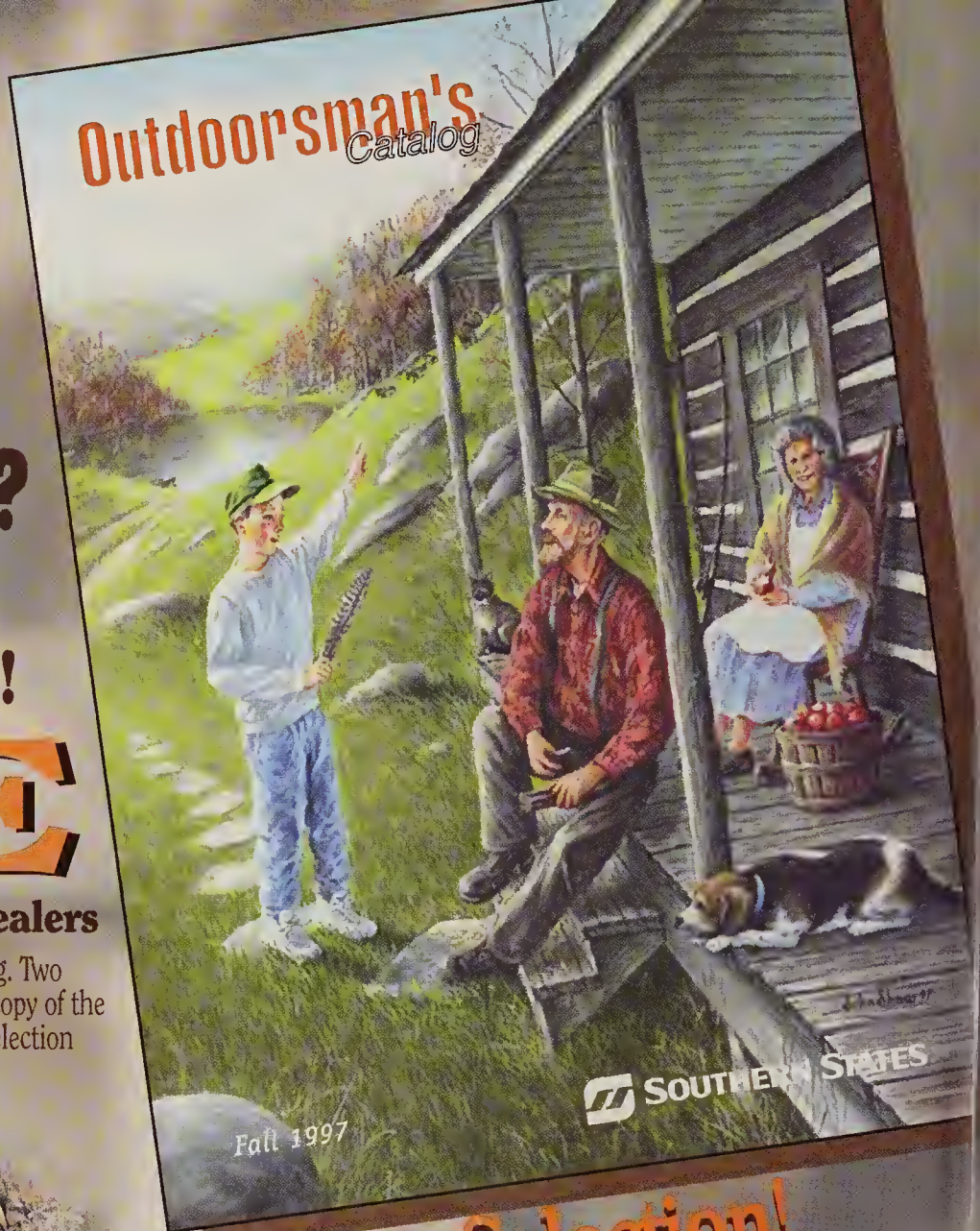
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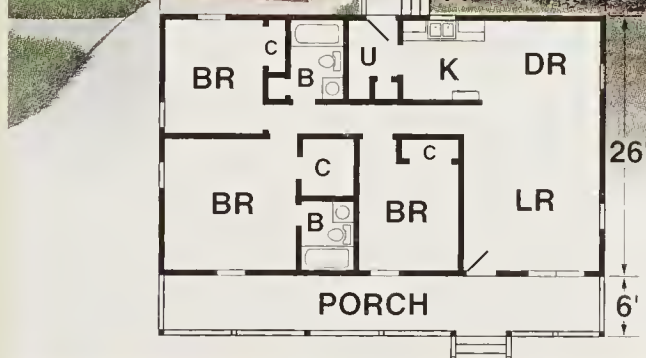
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The Name Game

From Cats Square to Hanging Dog

How did these places get their names?

by Don Blevins

They say that the community of Loafers Glory, in Mitchell County near the Tennessee line, was named by a woman who noticed that the menfolk liked to while away their time on the porch of the general store. In Sampson County, Easy Street came about in the days when it was easy to buy illegal liquor there.

Many of the Tar Heel State's villages and towns wear unusual names. How did they earn these titles? Some developed from geographical features, others from family names. Still more were influenced by circumstances and events of the times.

My research has turned up the following information and legends.

Local industries

Shingle Hollow (Rutherford): Named for a shingle mill located in a hollow.

Falcon (Cumberland): J.A. Culbreth named the place, inspired by a box of Falcon pens on a store shelf.

Butters (Bladen): Harks back to the days of the Butters Lumber company.

Iron Station (Lincoln): Relates to the many iron works and forges that operated here for almost a century.

Tin (Henderson): Joseph Youngblood, tinsmith, submitted a bid to supply tin cups and plates to the community jail.

Terrazzo Switch (Cherokee): Alludes to the "terrazzo" flooring made from marble chips by the Columbia Marble Company, and the fact that the settlement was located on a switch of the Southern Railroad track.

Silk Hope (Chatham): Probably born during the mid-1800s when home cultivation of silkworms was being promoted.

Daylo (Wilkes): Christened by store owner E.N. Vannoy for a brand of flashlights he sold.

Day Book (Yancey): More than likely received its name from an employee time book kept by a lumber company.

Jugtown (Moore): Following the Civil War, depression hit this pottery-making region. Farmers who couldn't sell their corn turned to the illegal business of moonshine, so the potters made whiskey jugs for them.

Delco (Columbus): First known as Brinkly, but with the arrival of a number of German settlers, the name was changed to New Berlin. With the outbreak of World War I, residents wanted a patriotic name. They selected Pershing, honoring General John J. "Black Jack" Pershing. But railroad conductors would call out, "Perishing!", so townspeople looked around for a new name. At the time, batteries in a local light plant provided electricity for the town. L.R. Hobbs owned the light plant and also sold Delco batteries. One night as he drove to a town meeting, he happened to have a battery on the seat beside him and later suggested Delco as the community name.

Religious origins

Red House (Caswell): Honors the Red House Presbyterian Church.

Barker-Ten Mile (Robeson): Salutes the Barker Methodist Church and Ten Mile Baptist Church.

New Light (Wake): Named by the Newlights, a branch of the Baptist faith that refused to admit membership to its church until individuals could testify to a religious experience and conversion.



Named for animals

Spot (Currituck): Originally known as Hog Quarters, but changed to Spot in 1920 because of the fish found in local waters.

Mink Neck (Hertford): Settlers found a large number of minks in this neck of the woods.

Rabbit Shuffle (Caswell): Supposedly refers to the land that was so poor "a rabbit had to shuffle" to find something to eat.

Rabbits Crossroads (Chatham): Hunters saw a number of rabbit tracks criss-crossing in the snow.

Quail Roost (Durham): Took its tag from a former hunting club.

Cats Square (Lincoln): A crossroad where people used to dump their unwanted cats.

Frog Level (Pitt): A pond here, located on a level piece of land, attracted great numbers of frogs every time it rained.

Lizard Lick (Wake): A passerby happened to notice a number of lizards sunning and licking themselves on a rail fence.

Redbug (Columbus): A lumberman stopped to rest here under a tree and was soon attacked by a horde of red bugs.

Uno (Henderson): Named for a small mongrel dog owned by two young girls.

Nags Head (Dare): Local people supposedly tied lanterns around the necks of ponies (nags) and, at night, walked them up and down the beach. The swinging lanterns resembled those of vessels and lured ships onto shore, where they would wreck and become easy prey for looting.

Hanging Dog (Cherokee): A nearby creek was so named when an Indian's dog became hanged in a mass of jammed logs and vines in the water.

Bee Log (Yancey): Travelers discovered a fallen tree containing bees and honey.

Big Lick (Stanly): The salty makeup of soil here attracted deer and buffalo.

Scotland Neck (Halifax): The original Scot settlement here in 1722 was on a neck of land.



Named for location

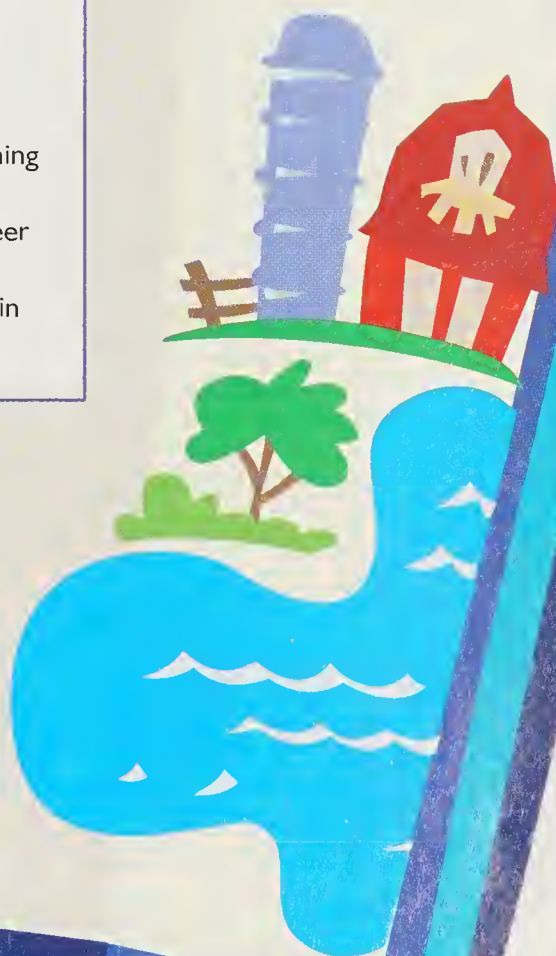
Old Hundred (Scotland County): Situated at the 100-mile marker when the railroad from Wilmington was built.

Forks of Ivy (Buncombe-Madison county line): Sits near the fork of Ivy and Little Ivy creeks.

Red Cross (Stanly): Located at a crossroads sided by red clay banks.

Toecane (Mitchell): Situated at the junction of the Toe River and Cane Creek.

Tar Corner (Camden): A barn once located here was covered with tar and stood at the intersection of two roads.



Folklore

Leaflet (Harnett): Suggested town names were submitted to postal officials three or four times, and each was rejected. Finally, Leaflet was submitted because it was not duplicated by any other locale. Another version has it that citizens decided on the name Little Leaf, but the man designated to record the name lost the slip of paper on which the words were written. He recollected that the name referred to some type leaf, so he recorded Leaflet.

Boogertown (Gaston): A man had a moonshine still on a mountain here. Concerned that someone might discover his enterprise, he spread the story that evil spirits ("boogers") roamed the mountain. The hill became known as Booger Mountain, and the hamlet that grew up nearby was called Boogertown.

Kill Devil Hills (Dare): The version recorded by William Byrd of Virginia in 1729 seems to be the most accepted. Rum consumed in this part of Carolina was shipped in from New England and was so potent that it bred the saying, "That rum is powerful enough to kill the devil!"

Tar Heel (Bladen): The name is said to have come from one of two events. One is that during the American Revolution, General Cornwallis and his forces crossed a river in the state and came out with tar on their feet. Another refers to the tar made here and taken to Cape Fear River, where it was put aboard rafts for shipment to Wilmington. The river waterfront was, naturally, covered with tar, which quickly adhered to the feet of anyone stepping on it.

Black Ankle (Cleveland): Some believe the name refers to a strip of dark, fertile soil that left farmers' ankles black after a day of plowing. There is a local story that the village was named for a section in Randolph County, where moonshiners operated. The bootleggers would set fires throughout the area to prevent lawmen from finding their stills. The term "black ankle" came about when moonshiners walked through the ashes of old fires to set new ones.



Named for early settlers

Almond (Macon), Brim (Surry), Bunch (Davidson) and Finger (Stanly): All named for early arrivals.

Shacktown (Yadkin): Honors B. G. "Shack" Colvard, a businessman.

Pine Hall (Stokes): Many Hall families live in the area adorned with pine trees.

Kitty Fork (Sampson): Remembers Miss Kitty Royal, whose house sat at the fork of a road.

Ho Ho Village (Carteret): Named by the developers, Hodges and Howard.

Cheeks Crossroads (Orange), Peek (Madison), Stackhouse (Madison) and Stem (Granville): All family names.

Bachelor (Craven): Refers to Edward Batchelor, with a slight adjustment in the spelling of his name.

Banner Elk (Avery): Named for the Banner family, early settlers on the Elk River.

Footville (Yadkin): Honors Revolutionary War veteran Colonel George Foot.

Speed (Edgecombe): Named for E. T. Speed.

Suit (Cherokee): Recalls Johnson Suit, the town's first postmaster.

Outlaws Bridge (Duplin): A family named Outlaw built a bridge here.

Lucama (Wilson): Named for the three sisters of Josephus Daniels: Lucy, Carrie and Mary.

Few (Durham): Had the Japanese name of Oyaya until the attack on Pearl Harbor. Citizens voted to change the name and honor Dr. William Few, first president of Duke University.

Iron Duff (Haywood): Citizens wanted to honor an early settler, Aaron MacDuff. Through an error by postal officials, confusion arose and the name was recorded as Iron Duff.



Circumstances and events

Rhodo (Cherokee): Named for the raw dough biscuits once served at a boarding house.

Erect (Randolph): A man by the name of C. M. Taylor admired the "correct posture" of his neighbor, Tom Bray, and suggested the community name.

Seven Bridges (Robeson): Seven bridges span a road near here.

Tin City (Duplin): When the village was first established, a number of buildings were constructed of sheet metal tin.

Meat Camp (Watauga): Where early hunters brought their animal hides and salted meat.

Intelligence (Rockingham): The site of the first modern school in this rural part of the county.

Push (Person): They say that when it rained, anything mired in the mud had to be pushed out of the ruts.

Lick Log Creek (Clay): Named for a stream, which was so named because a family cut trees along the creek bank, then hollowed out the logs and filled them with salt for their stock.

Light (Davidson): A mysterious light used to be seen going up and down a stream. There is no evidence that the source of the light was ever discovered.

Ledger (Mitchell): Citizens here wanted a post office, so a man named Phillips recorded all mail that the locals shipped and received through a nearby post office. He then sent his ledger to postal officials. Not only did the record influence the decision to establish a post office, it also inspired the postal service to name the place.

Bandana (Mitchell): Supposedly took its name from the time a railroad worker tied a bandana to a bush to mark the site for a station.

Bug Hill (Columbus): Settlers found a large clay hill so infested with bugs that no crops could grow on it, so citizens decided it would be a good place to build a school, Bug Hill School.

Grabtown (Bertie): A town character by the name of Dave Worthington had a favorite saying: "Anything in the immediate vicinity that wasn't tied down was subject to grabs."



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Meat Camp, Nags Head, Old Hundred, Quail Roost, Rabbit Shuffle, Red House, Rhodo, Scotland Neck, Shacktown, Speed,

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Stackhouse - Madison County Public Library, Marshall.

Suit - Postmaster, Suit.

Tin - Henderson County Public Library, Hendersonville.

Tin City - Dallas Herring, Rose Hill.

Uno - Henderson County Public Library, Hendersonville.

Don Blevins is a writer with a graduate degree in history. He lives in Texas.

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FOOTPRINTS

One night a man had a dream.
He dreamed he was walking along the
beach with the Lord. Across the sky
flushed scenes from his life.
For each scene, he noticed two sets of footprints
in the sand: one belonged to him, and
the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of his life flashed
before him, he looked back at the
footprints in the sand.
He noticed that many times
along the path of his life there was
only one set of footprints. He also
noticed that it happened at the very
lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him and he
questioned the Lord about it. "Lord, you said
that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk
with me all the way. But I have noticed that
during the most troublesome times in my
life there is only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why, when I needed
most, you would leave me."

The Lord replied, "My precious, precious
child, I love you and I would never
leave you. During your
of trial and
when you
one set of
it was
I can

May you
be touched
by angels

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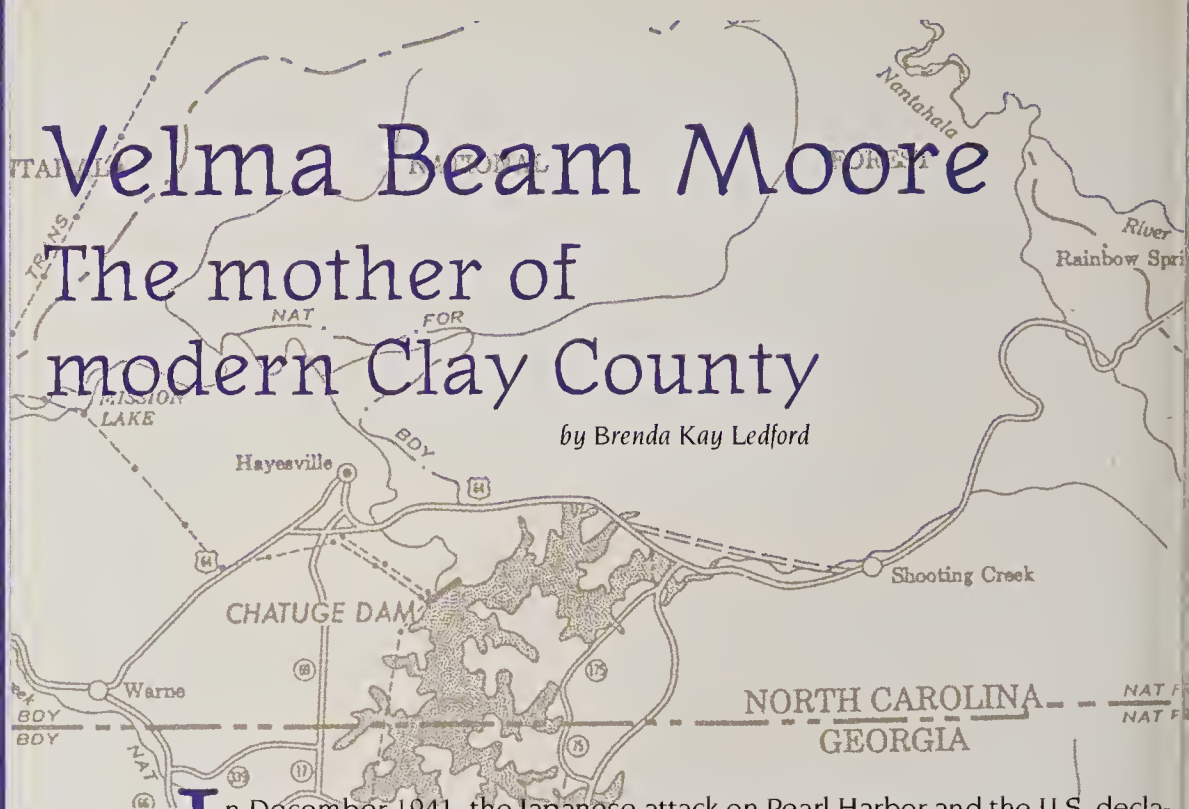
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3MCCR79

Velma Beam Moore

The mother of modern Clay County

by Brenda Kay Ledford



In December 1941, the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the U.S. declaration of war were second-rate news stories in Clay County. The top story of the day was the giant dam the government planned to build here in the Blue Ridge Mountains along the North Carolina-Georgia border.

The Tennessee Valley Authority's Chatuge Dam would flood 3,700 acres in Clay County and 3,500 acres in Towns County, Ga., much of it prime farmland that allowed residents to earn what living they could in a region still swamped by economic depression. In less than a year, the TVA sent 278 families to new homes, built new roads and imposed a new life on communities from Hayesville, N.C. to Blairsville, Ga.

The little cooperative, Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation, formed only four years earlier to bring Tennessee Valley Authority electricity to this area, reached out to mountain families and offered a new form of power to accompany the changes. Already skeptical of sudden change, some families flatly refused to join the electric cooperative, fearing that electricity would kill their livestock or burn down their barns.

Into this scene came young Velma Beam from Roxboro — all 4 feet, 7 inches of her — hired by the TVA and the North Carolina Extension Service as "assistant home demonstration agent." Her job in 1941 was to help Clay County families adjust to the changes that TVA and electricity would bring to farm life.

But she just went about helping people any way she could. And she's been doing that for more than 50 years.

It's no wonder that Velma Beam Moore, age 93, is known as "The Mother of

The TVA and its dams brought the Southern Appalachian region up to date, with electricity and all its implications . . . The TVA dams brought capabilities for flood control and improved navigation on the larger rivers. They brought badly needed jobs for local folks with real cash money. The increase in available cash boosted the values of land and created booming times in the local area. Of course the folks whose land lay in the path of the lake were not so happy with the state of things, since they had to accept the price the TVA offered for their property or have it condemned and taken away. For those folks, the TVA was a two-edged sword, bringing with it good things undreamed of before, but also bringing a departure from ancestral home places and a need to relocate within the space of a few short months.

From "Lamplights to Satellites,"
A History of Blue Ridge Mountain Electric
Membership Corporation, by Jerry
Hemphill, 1995.

Brenda Kay Ledford



Clay County." And in 1996 she was named "Clay County's Citizen of the Year."

In her typical way she says, "I don't see how one person could be chosen, because everyone who is active in the community could be named 'Citizen of the Year.' Of course I appreciated anything that comes my way whether I earn it or not. If people think that," she laughs, "I lap it up."

But according to Dick Osborn, a friend, businessman and member of her church, "If there ever was an outstanding citizen, it would be personified by Velma Beam Moore."

In 1941 and 1942, Velma's main role was to help people plan new houses and get them "happily and comfortably located." But what they really needed was to revive their anemic farmlands. "These hillsides were bleeding," Velma recalls. "When a rain came the mud washed down. It was our job to get people to grow legumes and grass."

Velma remembers many evenings sitting on farmhouse floors, meeting with farmers by oil lamp light, studying maps and setting plans. The TVA gave farmers phosphate and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service gave them lime to enrich the soil. They would leave unfertilized "check plots," Velma says, because "a lot of the elderly men thought phosphate was just sand." Within six years farm income increased 106 percent. The program established 174 poultry farms, and Velma says the eggs brought a fancy price. Soon, these families considered buying electric stoves, washers and dryers.

Working up the membership

Velma Moore clearly saw the advantages electricity would bring to this area. Her spunky enthusiasm carried her from farm to farm enrolling members in the electric cooperative. "I went from Shooting Creek to Brasstown, from Fires Creek to Myers Chapel working up the membership lines. That was a real good job, and I was happy to do it."

She remembers seeing women rubbing their hands raw while washing clothes outside in a black wash pot. "They couldn't have a washer and dryer. Now when you go through Clay County, almost everyone has a washer and dryer."

Besides introducing the convenience of electricity to Clay County, Velma taught home furnishing, nutrition, estate planning and family life economics.

The TVA and North Carolina Extension Service demonstration program soon gained national attention. Students from South America, Norway and Greece visited Clay County to observe the program. Extension groups across America asked Velma to speak at their clubs.

"I was thrilled to death to brag about Clay County," she says.

Velma believes her principal accomplishment was to encourage mountaineers to appreciate their culture. "When you make people realize they have something special, it makes them want to live up to the expectation," she says. "I was a little country girl, and I knew they had something special. It's a gift from God."

The book "Lamplights to Satellites," a history of Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation, by Jerry Hemphill (1995), is available for \$12 from Blue Ridge Mountain EMC, P.O. Box 9, Young Harris, GA 30582. Phone: (706) 379-3121.

Her dedication to the county continued after she retired in 1958. She and her late husband, J. Walter, gave land to establish the Hinton Rural Life Center, a mission agency of the United Methodist Church in Clay County that encourages young people. She is active in the First United Methodist Church of Hayesville and is an auxiliary member of the Clay County Care Center. She writes a weekly column for the Clay County Progress and expresses concerns for her county, such as the demise of many farms.



Photo shows the Willard Ledford place in Clay County's Cherry Mountain section, one of Blue Ridge Mountain EMC's first accounts, in about 1940.

Clay County now

Today, Lake Chatuge lies like liquid sapphire in the lush green bowl of Clay County. Breathtaking mountain and valley scenery attracts flocks of visitors. This is no longer chiefly farming country, but a charmed recreational area as well with a year-round population of 7,850.

Lake Chatuge's reservoir contains three developed county parks and three commercial marinas. Two campgrounds are nearby. TVA operates two public use areas and a \$17 million recreation facility.

Velma Beam Moore holds the same fondness for this area today as she did in 1942 when she was struck by the autumn beauty: "In Clay County, I feel I am on the threshold of heaven."

A former teacher, Brenda Kay Ledford, of Hayesville, is a member of the North Carolina Writers Network, Appalachian Writers Association and Blue Ridge Mountain Electric Membership Corporation

Health Care in Public Schools

By Nell Perry Bovender

Adolescents make up the only age group in this country whose health has declined over the last two decades.

—American Medical Association

School-based health centers

They take health care closer to people who need it

In Gates County on any given weekday most of the year, the largest assembly of the county's population is sitting in schools. So when citizens looked for a way to get health care closer to county residents, they put a health center near the school.

In this case, it sits in a trailer right outside Gates County High School and offers free care to any student from age 10 to 19 who has parental consent.

School health centers can help address what is a rarely discussed health-care crisis nationwide: Adolescents' health, unlike any other age group, has declined over the last two decades, according to the American Medical Association.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation began funding school health centers 10 years ago, with grants to 18 community institutions around the country. One of those first 18 grants was to Guilford County, where a second school health center is set to open soon.

Within the last four years, school health centers have opened at 30 schools in North Carolina. An additional eight will be open by January 1998.

Funding comes from foundations, school systems, governments and hospitals. In this state the collaborative effort — called "Making the Grade" — is supported by the state's Division of Maternal Child Health along with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Duke Endowment. Marilyn Asay, a school nurse consultant for the state, is project director.

Grant agencies expect each student health center to become self-sufficient. Some centers are reimbursed by insurance and Medicaid. Others charge a nominal per-visit fee. Much of the help comes in the form of in-kind services — the school system provides space and maintenance, health departments provide professionals. In Rockingham, the hospitals provide primary-care professionals.

At some point, local businesses and industries may be approached about some sort of help.

The centers meet many needs, says Cathy R. DeMason, director of Student Health for Morehead Memorial Hospital in Eden, which co-sponsors health centers in all four high schools in Rockingham County. "This is a rural county," DeMason said, "so there is no mass transportation system. If you don't have a car and can't drive, you can't get to the health department. It's a 20-mile trip for many people. Same with doctors' offices."

The story is the same in rural counties all over the state — from Yancey County, up in the mountains, where Paulina Etzold coordinates the school health centers in the middle schools, over to Gates County at the opposite end of the state, where Betsy Brown is coordinator.



Bo Ryall is the pediatric nurse practitioner for the two school health centers in Yancey County. Here she examines an East Yancey Middle School student.

Typically, because doctors' offices are open during school and work hours, students who need medical attention must miss class and parents take time off from work. Plus, in Gates County there is no hospital, only a rural health center, "and it's 45 minutes to anywhere," says Betsy Brown.

Use of the Adolescent Care Center in Gates County is similar to use at other such centers. During the last school year, the center recorded 1,950 visits — for 460 respiratory problems (colds, bronchitis, asthma, allergies and sinusitis).

302 physicals, 300 injuries (including muscular aches and pains), 258 stomach aches, 53 gynecological problems (including menstrual cramps), and 15 pregnancies.

A need uncovered in all of the centers has been for more nutrition and mental health counseling. "It's surprising the number of kids who feel totally stressed by problems at home, at school," Cathy DeMason said. "Teens today are so busy. Usually both parents are working, so a lot of responsibility falls to them. Plus parents aren't as available. Teens need adults to talk to."

The risks teens face these days are in stark contrast to the 1930s and '40s, when TB and polio were the biggest enemies. Immunizations and changes in child-labor prac-

tices turned those days around. "Today we have clean water, clean food," said Yancey County's Paulina Etzold. "People are dying from preventable conditions." Deaths in adolescents are in fact 80 to 85 percent preventable, according to national figures, because they are based on behavior choices - choices to start smoking, to become sexually active, to drive without seatbelts, to ride without helmets.

Tom Lawrence has been principal at Gates County High for the last five years. He has seen the needs, and he has seen the health center fill those needs: "We did not know what it was until we had it, and now we don't know how we lived without it."

Lessons from the "School Nurse of the Year"

Ask parents if their children's school has a nurse, and they would think for a minute and reply, "Sure."

Not so. National school nurse organizations recommend a nurse for every 750 students, and the nurses in this state would be pleased if there was one nurse for every 1,000 students. North Carolina averages one nurse for every 3,500 students. Some counties have arrived at the recommended ration of one for every 750 students - Currituck County and Davie County, for example. Then there are counties with only one nurse to serve all 18,000 students in their school system.

A school nurse serves as educator, referral agent and manager of care, says Marilyn Asay, school nurse consultant for the Division of Maternal and Child Health. In a best-world scenario, the school nurse has a health center on-site or nearby [see related story] where they can send students who need to see a physician or other health-care provider.

Currituck, a rural county in the northeast corner of the state, is home to one of the state's strongest school nurse programs. Many give credit for that fact to Dee Talley, the school nurse for Currituck County High School for almost eight years, who lobbied strongly for one nurse in every school.

Much of what school nurses do is really education. In Currituck County, for example, Talley and the other school nurses have developed

- A Smoke-Out program for students who want to stop, including visits to elementary schools by high school students who want to quit smoking.
- Asthma management, including introducing peak flow meters in all schools to measure air flow in lungs.
- Pregnancy prevention programs, including the "Baby Think It Over" program which sends home with a teen for a weekend a lifelike doll that cries intermittently 24 hours a day.
- Support groups for pregnant and parenting teens.
- Support groups for students committed to abstinence.
- Programs for faculty and staff, including annual mammograms, a weight-control program, a health newsletter and a menopause seminar.



Dee Talley, school nurse for Currituck County High School in one of the state's most rural counties, was selected 1996 School Nurse of the Year by her peers in the N.C. School Nurses' Association. She was cited for her efforts to increase the number of school nurses in her county.

Nell Perry Bovender is a freelance writer in Rutherfordton and editor of "Nursing Matters."

Who Knew Vinegar Could Do ALL That?

CHICAGO (Special) - Research from centers around the world report what ancient healers knew thousands of years ago -- *that vinegar is the wonder elixir for a healthier life.*

Since ancient times a daily dose of apple cider vinegar has been taken to control appetite and maintain well-being.

Even Japan's feared Samurai warriors of years ago relied on a vinegar tonic for strength and power. A tonic you can make in your kitchen.

Today, countless reports and scientific studies praise the curative and preventive powers of vinegar as part of our daily diet.

And now after long research, for the first time, over 300 vinegar super-healing home remedies and recipes have been gathered by noted natural health author Emily Thacker in her exclusive new book, *"The Vinegar Book."*

It's the most complete collection since the discovery of vinegar 10,000 years ago.

You'll learn how to control your appetite to lose weight with a meal-time vinegar cocktail.

Find trusted home remedies to beat colds, ease painful arthritis, and other joint diseases.

Vinegar is nature's own drug-free anti-inflammatory.

Scientific tests show organic vinegar is a natural storehouse of vitamins and minerals, including beta carotene -- over 93 different components -- to fight what ails you.

More than 70 different research studies have verified that *beta carotene lowers the risk of getting cancer and it boosts the body's immune system.*

When fresh apples are allowed to ferment organically, the result is a vinegar that contains natural sediment with pectin, trace minerals, beneficial bacteria and enzymes.

And pectin helps your body reduce cholesterol levels to lower the risk of cardiovascular disease.

"The Vinegar Book" will amaze and delight you with 308 natural ways to enrich your personal life and home. Time-honored folk remedies that show step by step how to mix vinegar with other kitchen staples to:

- Improve your metabolism
- Aid digestion
- Help lower cholesterol
- Uses for middle ear problems
- Condition problem skin
- Fight age and liver spots
- Gain soft, radiant skin
- Amazing hair treatments
- Relieve nighttime leg cramps
- Soothe sprained muscles
- Fight osteoporosis with calcium
- Help headaches fade away
- Corn and callus relief
- Aid to maintain health
- Skin rashes, athlete's foot
- Relieve insect bites
- Remedy for urinary problems
- Use for coughs, colds
- Destroy bacteria in foods
- Heart and circulatory problems
- Fight high blood pressure

And the above is only a brief sample of the 308 uses for vinegar you'll learn about.

You'll know how grandma's recipe for her famous pie crust depends on a spoonful of apple cider vinegar.

How a combination of vinegar and fruit juices relieves arthritis symptoms and other aches and pains.

Try a delicious low calorie, calcium-and-iron rich chicken soup and vinegar recipe.

Combine your favorite herbs with vinegar to create tenderizers, mild laxatives, mouth washes, tension relievers, and mouthwatering tasty salad dressings and more.

Of course, we all know the cleaning power of vinegar. But Emily Thacker's research has uncovered a host of new moneysaving ways to keep your home, laundry, clothing, brass, copper and other possessions sparkling clean. And with less effort.

You'll also delight in making and bottling your own special vinegars. It's so simple to follow Emily's recipes. Homemade vinegars make such wonderful gifts. You could even end up selling your creations to food and gift shops.

And get ready for many compliments when the family and friends bite into those delicious pickle treats you make.

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What Would You Do With An Extra \$3,600 to \$12,000 per year?

How to Get a Fast Mortgage Loan To Pay Off All Your Bills** (Even If You've Been Turned Down By A Bank Or Mortgage Company)

Rockingham, N.C. - Ray and Becky were frustrated. They'd bought the house 12 years ago and it was five years old when they moved in. Becky laughed out loud when she thought back to that time. Back then it seemed so big and beautiful. But now, 12 years and 3 kids later, the house felt small and run down. The house needed a new roof and her two youngest girls, Emily and Katie, were doubling up in the small 10 x 12 bedroom.

Five years ago, Ray and Becky had a contractor come and talk to them about a new addition. Becky remembered how excited she and Ray both were. They even paid to have the plans drawn up. But that was the year before Ray lost his job at the plant. She poured herself another cup of coffee and recalled how depressed they both were. It was over a year before he got another job. And during that time, they got behind on everything.

No Summer Vacation

They were so strapped for money one summer, they couldn't even take Emily and Katie to the beach for a few days for their annual vacation. When they finally got all caught up when Ray went back to work, it took them two years and at that time it had ruined their previously perfect credit record, it was a vicious cycle. You know, getting paid on Friday, sitting down on Saturday to pay bills and running out of money before all the bills are paid.

"I Hit A Brick Wall"

After they got caught up they tried again to borrow the money for the addition. First they got turned down by the local bank, then a mortgage company in town rejected them. They kept hitting the same brick wall. Even though Ray had gone back to work in another carpet mill making MORE money, the late payments that showed up on his credit reports scared the local banks and mortgage companies away. Ray felt like he was working JUST to pay his monthly bills and doing nothing for himself, Becky or the kids. Then he ran into Harvest Mortgage Company. Harvest helped him get a loan to pay off all his bills and consolidate everything into one single payment that was \$358 lower than he had been making. That saved him a whopping \$4,296 per year. THAT'S FREE. In the first year, that was enough money to close in the back porch, AND enough left over for new bikes for the kids.

Home Equity is the Key



Carole Eskew, Sr., V.P.

"If you have a minimum of 20% equity or more, there's a good chance we can help you save a lot of money every month by combining old bills and your old mortgage into one

new and much lower payment. Or, we can help you get cash out of your home to buy a vacation home, start a business, whatever."

Compare your budget to this:

Amt.	Owed	Payment
\$12,000	2nd Mortgage	\$200 ⁰⁰
8,500	Auto Loan	375 ⁰⁰
2,000	VISA	100 ⁰⁰
2,000	MasterCard	100 ⁰⁰
\$25,000 Current Payment		\$775⁰⁰

-After Harvest Mortgage -

New Payment: \$187⁸²/mo.

APR 9.077% / 30 yr. term

You Save: \$587¹⁸/mo., \$7,046.16/yr.

** Rates subject to change*

"I couldn't believe it. We closed our loan 9 days after the first day I talked to them on the phone."

Debbie C., Dallas

"We ended up paying off all our bills and rolling them all into one single payment. After we did, our total monthly payments dropped by almost \$400 per month."

Billy and Judy., Columbus

"Thanks to you and your great company, we feel reborn. Words can not express the relief we feel. We are so glad this battle with the bills is almost over."

James and Laurie C.

Recent Loans Include:

- A \$45,000 loan to a borrower in bankruptcy.
- A \$100,000 loan to a borrower who couldn't verify income through tax returns.
- A \$95,000 bill-consolidation loan that saved the borrower over \$8,100 per year and a whopping \$124,000 over the loan period.

(No singlewides, please)

No Ivory Towers

"When you apply for a loan at Harvest Mortgage, your loan request is reviewed and decided upon by the people right in our office," says a Harvest executive. He added, "Since we are direct lenders, we don't send the information to some guys off somewhere in New York or California. We review and approve loans right here in town locally."

Fast Approval and Closing

That means we can get your loan closed in a matter of days, and you never have to go out of your living room until you're ready to close."

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Harvest Mortgage officials report that whether you are buying, refinancing a house, just looking to consolidate some bills, get cash for your property, they have created programs to give you the money you're looking for. Different loan programs include:

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Check This Out For Free

To see how much money you may be able to get and exactly how much your payments would be, you can check it out by just picking up the phone and calling us. Be sure to ask for Carolyn Reid at **1-800-972-LEND (5363)**. Or for a **FREE** report on **HOW Harvest Mortgage** can work for you, call toll-free **1-888-697-LOAN (5626)** for a 24-hour recorded message. All of this doesn't cost you a dime, so you owe it to yourself. Don't put this off any longer. Do it now while you're thinking about it! You have got nothing to lose and everything to gain. Call Now!

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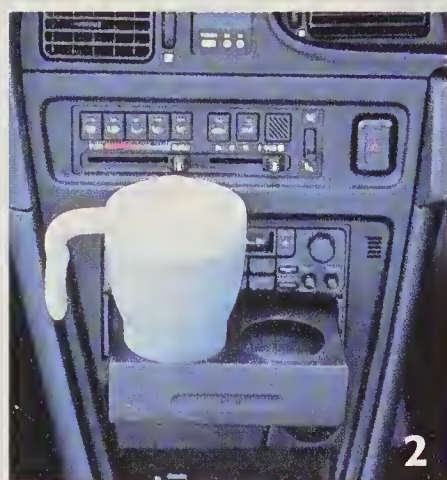
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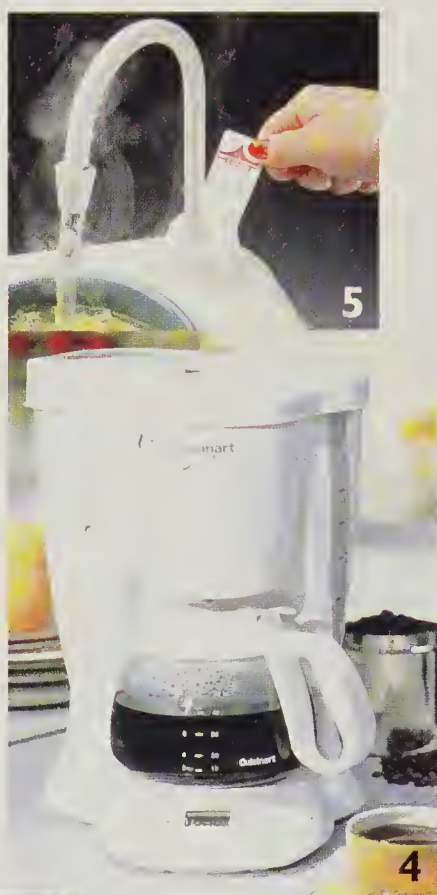
Go Electric

A buyer's guide
by Sharon O'Malley

It's the first thing you think about when you wake up in the morning. It perks you up when the workday drags on. There's a lot riding on that cup of coffee. And manufacturers are designing new coffee makers to make sure every steamy sip is perfect.

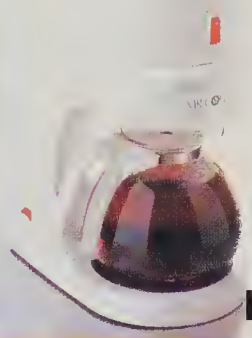


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Coffee Break

This guide is for informational purposes only and not intended as an endorsement by the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives.

1 SpeedBrew.

If you're busy working full time, raising kids and running a household, you probably don't have time to wait around for freshly brewed coffee every morning. Mr. Coffee's new SpeedBrew coffee maker pares brewing time for a 10-cup pot of coffee to three minutes—down from seven to 10 for most other makers. SpeedBrew also has a timer so you can program the coffee maker to start brewing before you wake up. It's available at discount and department stores for around \$42.99. Call 800-672-6333 for more information.

2 Brew 'N Go.

Get your morning routine on the road quicker with Black & Decker's Brew 'N Go, which quickly brews 15 ounces of coffee into a thermal plastic mug designed to fit your car's cup holder. The insulated mug has a tapered bottom, an easy-to-grip handle and a tight-fitting lid to make carrying it in your hand or in the car easier. Model DCM19 is available for around \$29.99 at Black & Decker outlets and wherever coffee makers are sold. Call 800-231-9786.

3 CapressoBAR.

A combination of espresso pump machine and 10-cup drip coffee maker, the CapressoBAR can brew up to 25 authentic crema espressos, cappuccinos or lattes from its 38-ounce water tank. The espresso pump machine heats up in 50 seconds. The digital coffee maker is programmable. And the unit comes with video instructions. It sells for around \$370 at coffee shops and specialty retailers, and in mail-order catalogs. Call 800-767-3554 for details.

4 Grind & Brew.

If nothing but a fresh jolt of java will do, check out Cuisinart's gourmet coffee maker, the 10-cup automatic Grind & Brew. It produces the freshest coffee because it comes with a grinder that mills the beans for each pot just before it begins brewing. It's programmable and comes with a strength selector and automatic shut-off. The Grind & Brew sells for around \$199 at department and discount stores. Call 800-726-0190 to find a dealer near you.

5 Steamin' Hot.

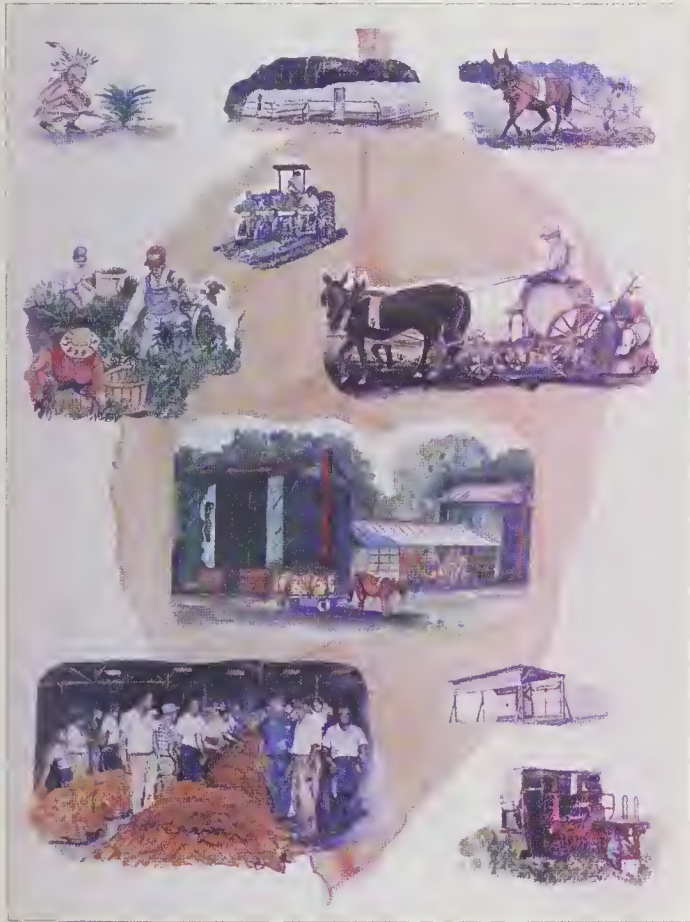
Imagine turning on your kitchen faucet for a cup of steaming hot water to make instant coffee. In Sink-Erator offers a faucet that instantly delivers 190-degree water any time you want it. Its gooseneck spout comes in chrome, white, almond, black or polished brass; consumers may choose from several styles and options. Buy it at home centers or through your plumber for around \$175, not including installation. Call 800-252-5254 for more information.



compiled by Carol Clayton

"The Golden Leaf"

This painting by Nancy P. Compton tells the story of North Carolina tobacco farming. The artist grew up near Yanceyville, Caswell County. The image is 16 by 22 inches and prints are available. Contact Alfred L. Sugg, Route 2, Box 446, Snow Hill, NC 28580. (919) 747-3341.



Promoting tourism to N.C. Civil War sites

The N.C. Civil War Tourism Council will present its 3rd annual conference Sept. 26-28 at the Coast Line Convention Center in Wilmington. The conference will feature tours of Fort Fisher and Fort Anderson. William Davis, historian and author, will be the keynote speaker. Presentations will include: Battles of Fort Fisher; The Wilmington Campaign; Blockade Running Into Wilmington; Blockading Squadron Off the Cape Fear Coast; Burnside's Campaign; Social History of Wilmington; and African Americans in the Lower Cape Fear Region. Full conference registration is \$125. Partial registration is \$50 for Friday or \$100 for Saturday and Sunday.

The N.C. Civil War Tourism Council serves to educate North Carolinians on their state's role in the Civil War and to promote tourism to historic Civil War sites. A yearlong membership is \$23.

For conference information, contact Tonia Smith at (910) 692-4934. For membership information, contact Bernard A. Harrell at (919) 881-0035.



Museum of Art opens a membership drive

The North Carolina Museum of Art is conducting a membership drive during its exhibition, "It's Only Rock and Roll." Until Nov. 16, those who join will receive free movie passes and other premiums along with regular membership benefits.

Located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh, the museum is an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources that relies on membership support to provide arts-related programming. The museum houses one of the finest collections of old master European paintings and American art in the country, along with a growing contemporary art collection and expanding African and New World art galleries.

Members receive invitations to special events, discounts on performances and in the museum shop, plus free subscriptions. Individuals or senior couples who buy a \$30 membership will receive two free movie passes to the museum park's outdoor cinema. Those who join at a family level (\$50) or higher will receive a season's grass pass to the outdoor cinema. Those who join on the night of a performance will also receive one of several premiums, including tee-shirts, CDs, or other rock-related items.

For information on becoming a NCMA member, sign up at a museum park event, call the membership office at (919) 839-6262, ext. 2121, or join online at the museum's home page on the Internet at www2.ncsu.edu/ncma.

105th Howitzer battalion plans 40th reunion

Members of "A" Battery, 10 Artillery, 105 Howitzer Battalion, 2nd will celebrate the 40th anniversary of their first gathering this year. The group first met in 1957 and was stationed at Fort Benning and Bramberg, Germany.

Hal and Jean T. Beasley of Plymouth are planning the reunion for Oct. 17-19 at the North Raleigh Hilton. Contact Hall ("Deac") Beasley, 213 Ransome Drive, Plymouth, NC 27962. Phone: (919) 793-2668.

Free guide to county fairs

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture has issued its 1997 Fair Schedule. The list includes the county fairs, dates, contact names and phone numbers. For a free copy, contact Charles L. Campbell, Jr., Coordinator-County Fairs at (919) 733-7887 or by mail at P.O. Box 27647 Raleigh, NC 27611.



Naturalists Rally

Sept. 5-7, Roan Mountain State Park, TN
35th Annual. Guest speakers, guided hikes. (423) 772-3303.

Currituck Wildlife Festival

Sept. 6-7, Corolla
16th annual. Wildlife, art decoys, photography, wood carvings. Duck, goose and swan calling contest; retriever demonstration. Auction, Sunday 1 p.m. Proceeds go to Currituck Wildlife Museum. Historic Whalehead Club. Saturday, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. \$3 per day; \$5 both days, children under 6, free. (919) 232-2962.

LPGA Ladies Golf

Sept. 8, Shelby
Pro-AM event with LPGA pro. 8 a.m., Cleveland Country Club. \$55 fee. Call Rick Dancy, (704) 487-8594.

"Kitchens...and Moore"

Sept. 11, Pinehurst
Tour of 6 new or remodeled kitchens with food demonstrations and samples. Sponsored by Moore County Extension Homemakers Association to benefit 4-H and other Youth Development programs. Advanced tickets, \$9; \$10 at The Village Chapel and each house the day of the tour. (910) 947-3188.

Deep River Park Festival

Sept. 13, Gulf
Arts, crafts, music, canoe rides, food, monkey organ, pony rides, petting zoo and martial arts demonstrations. Deep River Park: take Highway 421 to Cumnock Road, 2 miles to Camelback Bridge at the park. 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (919) 898-4814.

Organic Field Day

Sept. 13, Wallace area
Day-long tour of sustainable, organic farm sites, including a composting facility, farm, wine vineyard and processing plant, and vegetable packer. Duplin, Sampson and Pender counties. \$15 fee. (910) 285-6291.

The Mountain Way

Sept. 12-14, Maggie Valley
1st celebration and festival of history and heritage. Crafts, skill demonstrations, demonstration of "old time" mountain way of life, fiddle-banjo convention, clogging, music, muzzle loading rifle match, story tellin'. (704) 926-1686.

Golf Tournament

Sept. 14, Statesville
Sponsored by Iredell County Humane Society. Shotgun starts 8 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. New car, \$15,000 cash prizes. \$50 per player. Fox Den Country Club. (704) 872-5340.

Military Encampment

Sept. 13-14, Blacksburg, SC
From 84th Royal Highland Emigrants. Demonstration of 18th century skills: flint knapping, leather-working, cooking, weapon firing and other military life necessities. Kings Mountain National Military Park. (864) 936-7921.

Harvest Festival

Sept. 17-21, Clayton
Craft exhibits, golf tournament, classic car show, live entertainment and street dance in downtown Clayton. (919) 553-6352.

Southern Women's Show

Sept. 18-21, Charlotte
Food, fashion, shopping. See latest fashions, learn how to prepare quick and easy meals, enjoy a makeover, get tips for home decoration and managing money, plan trips, and more. Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Sunday, 12-6 p.m. (704) 376-6594.



Left: Contemporary Mexican art, Mint Museum, Charlotte

Above and at right: "It's Only Rock and Roll," N.C. Museum of Art.



Goldston Pumpkin Festival, Sept. 27-28

Southern Ideal Home Show

Sept. 18-21, Raleigh
Everything for building and renovating.
Products and ideas. NC State
Fairgrounds. Thursday and Friday, 12-
9:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.;
Sunday, 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. (704) 376-6594.

Trail Celebration

Sept. 19-20, Spruce Pine
Overmountain Victory Trail, the site of an
overnight encampment used by the
"overmountain boys" as they walked a
trail toward history defending their rights.
Free. (704) 765-6082 or
(800) 227-3912.

Antique Engines, Music

Sept. 19-21, Roxboro
Engines, tractors and "battle of bluegrass
bands." Annual Flat River Club show.
Optimist Park. \$5 adults.
(910) 364-8276.

Southern Randolph Country Days

Sept. 19-21, Seagrove
22nd annual, sponsored by Seagrove
aycees. Crafts, food, 3 music and enter-
tainment stages, carnival, truck parade
Saturday, horse parade Sunday.
Intersection of Hwy. 220 Alt. and Hwy. 705
or Seagrove exit, off of 220 Bypass.
Friday, 7-10 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-9
p.m.; Sunday, 12-6 p.m. (910) 873-9844 or
(910) 629-7357.

National Balloon Rally

Sept. 19-21, Statesville
Hot-air balloons, country music, beach
music, food, children's events. At Iredell
County Fairgrounds. (704) 873-2892.

Enfield Peanut Festival

Sept. 20, Enfield
17th annual. Entertainment stages, clowns,
arts and crafts, food vendors, agricultural
equipment display (including peanut har-
vest equipment). Downtown. 9:30 a.m.-5
p.m. (919) 445-3830.

Flat River Festival

Sept. 20, Louisburg
Live entertainment all day, demonstra-
tions of basket weaving, blacksmithing,
quilting and more, petting zoo, panning
for gems, children's rides, games, antique
cars, Daytona USA driving simulator,
Oldwinger Motorcycle Club, Top 40,
country, rock and roll, dance groups.
Verbend Park. (919) 496-3056.

Farm Heritage Days

Sept. 20-21, Cove Creek
Celebrating region's farming roots and
future with farm life exhibits, old-timey,
children's games, authentic mountain
entertainment, handmade crafts, food
and much more. Saturday at Old Cove
Creek School Grounds. Sunday only, self-
guided tour of seven area farms.
Proceeds to renovate school. Saturday, 10
a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, 1- 6 p.m. Adults, \$1;
Children, \$.50. (704) 297-3560.

WWII Aircraft Display

Sept. 20-21, Moore County
Confederate Air Force 1997 Warbird Fly-
in. Variety of WWII aircraft will fly and be
on display along with more recent mili-
tary airplanes. Moore County Airport will
sell rides in civilian planes. Saturday,
U.S.O. type Hanger Dance with band.
Moore County Airport. (910) 295-1337.

Clay Court Championship

Sept. 22-28, Pinehurst
USTA National Men's 70 & 85. Pinehurst
Tennis Club. (910) 295-8555.

Mule Days

Sept. 25-28, Benson
International Annual Event draws 50,000
to Benson for mule contests and rodeos,
street dancers, barbecue cook-off, arts
and crafts exhibits. Bluegrass, clogging,
parade and carnival circus. Downtown.
Free. (919) 894-3825.

Christmas Fair 1997

Sept. 26-27, Boone
"Sights, Sounds and Smells of Christmas"
by Watauga County Extension
Homemakers. Crafts for gifts, refresh-
ments, lunch. Friday, 11 a.m. -6 p.m.;
Saturday, 9 a.m. -3 p.m. (704) 264-3061.

Malcolm Blue Farm Festival

Sept. 26-28, Aberdeen
Craft demonstrations, puppet show, farm
animals, food, folk and country music,
dancing, reenactment troop. All authentic
historic activities/events. Malcolm Blue
Farm. Friday, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.; Saturday, 10
a.m.- 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon- 5 p.m. Free.
(910) 944-7558.

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Jan. issueNov. 25

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September 1997 CAROLINA COUNTRY

Fall Festival

Sept. 27, Ebony, Va.

Auction, flea market, food, crafts, books, mystery chart drawings, games, fire truck rides, clowns. Prospect United Methodist Church. Route 903, on the NC border. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. (919) 586-5757.

Acoustic Stage Performance

Sept. 27, Hickory

Gillian Welch and David Rawlings. Arts & Science Center of Catawba Valley Auditorium. 8 p.m. Advance tickets: \$10 Acoustic Stage member; \$12 non-member. (704) 324-5951.

Olde Boone Streetfest

Sept. 27, Boone

Downtown. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Free. (704) 262-4532.

Gem & Mineral Show

Sept. 27-28, Hiddenite

9th annual, sponsored by Western Piedmont Mineral & Gem Society. Hiddenite Educational Complex, Sulpher Springs Road. Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, 12:30-6 p.m.

Pumpkin Festival

Sept. 27-28, Goldston

4th Annual Festival features heritage crafts, an antique tractor pull, games and events for children, gospel and bluegrass music

and homestyle foods. Sponsored in part by Goldston Volunteer Fire Department. Hart's Pumpkin Farm near Goldston. (919) 837-5363.

Stokes Stomp Festival

Sept. 27-28, Danbury

23rd annual. Crafts, entertainment and food. Moratock Park. Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, 12-6 p.m. (910) 593-8159.

Greene County Ag-Fest

Oct. 2-4, Snow Hill

Second annual event sponsored by Snow Hill Lions Club. S.E. Third Street. (919) 747-8136, (919) 747-3173 or (919) 747-5838.

North Carolina Country Stampede

Oct. 3-4, Williamston

True Value/Jimmy Dean Country Showdown, outdoor music and street festival, rodeo, rides, East Carolina Motor Speedway racing, International Hunting and Fishing Museum tours, fireworks, art show and more. Saturday, country showdown. (919) 792-0409 or (919) 792-6605.

Peanut Festival

Oct. 4, Edenton

Arts and crafts, concession stands, parade and band competition. One-day annual event sponsored by the Band Parents Association for Edenton-Chowan Schools. Proceeds go to bands' programs. John A. Holmes High School. (919) 482-8426.

Living History Day

Oct. 4, Hertford

Colonial crafts, open hearth cooking, children's activities and games, tours of the Newbold White House, local artisans and food. Newbold White House. (919) 426-75 or e-mail newbold.white@juno.com

Fall Festival

Oct. 4-5, Brasstown

John C. Campbell Annual Fall Festival. Over 100 visual juried artists and craftspeople, demonstrations of folk life skills, food booths, petting zoo, and two music stages featuring regional mountain clogging, other types of dance, bluegrass and Appalachian folk music. Friday night, kick-off concert. Saturday night, contra and square dance. John C. Campbell Folk School. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Adults, \$3; children, free. (800) FOLK-SCH.

Dixie Classic Fair

Oct. 3-12, Winston-Salem

Carnival rides, shows, games, exhibits of livestock, agriculture products, homemaking, hobbycrafts, arts and crafts, flower shows, and more. Entertainment-musical motocross, demo derby, tractor pulls, bull riding and more. 421 West 27th Street. Adults, \$5; children, \$3; 5 & under, free. (910) 727-2236.

Art Show and Sale

Oct. 4-12, Asheboro

"An Eye On Nature," sponsored by the N.C. Zoo. Park's 4th annual juried art show; cash awards. Features work emphasizing natural diversity, beauty and issues of environmental protection and conservation. W. David Stedman Education Center, N.C. Zoo. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. (910) 879-7453.

Ongoing Events

Mountain State Fair

Sept. 5-13, Fletcher

Fourth year. Livestock, petting zoo, big-name entertainers, Triple W pig races, rides, annual clogging competition, gospel singing contest, magic show, antique tractor pull and more. Free or discounted admission offered six days. Call for details. Western N.C. Agricultural Center. 3 p.m.-midnight, Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-midnight, Friday-Sunday. Adults, \$4; children six to 12, \$2; over 65 and under five, free. (704) 687-1414.

Hand of Man Exhibit

Through Sept. 21, Statesville

Exhibit about mankind's early creative spirit from the Gallery of Prehistoric Art. The Arts & Science Center. \$1.50/person. For group tour, including a video and hands-on activities, call: (704) 873-4734.

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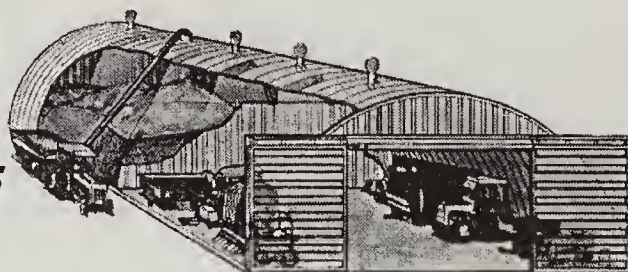
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Off the Top of My Head

Barber, barber, tell me true,
What did I ever do to you?
Why is it my balding pate
Sets you off in such a state?
"Just a little off the top,"
Doesn't mean to never stop
Til I'm utterly bereft
Of what little I have left.

It seems that I incite shear malice
By entering your tonsorial palace.
"Just trim around my neck and ears"
Must turn you on – ditto your shears.
In your hand electric clippers
Move like they were Jack the Ripper's.
Do I deserve opprobrium
For entering your emporium?

Barber, barber, tell me true,
What have I ever done to you?
Barber, please don't be a snip –
This time I will leave a tip!

C.G.J.



"You may not believe this, but my hair

tuics ncrblc ae mcre."

Use the capital letters below to fill in the blanks at left.

ABDEFILORT VW means
u n s c r a m b l e i t

The Harkers Island (N.C.) Electric Membership Corporation was the first electric cooperative in the United States to get its electrical power via

u ednblarc sunmr.

Use the capital letters below to fill in the blanks above.

ABCDEFGHIJLMRSU means
u n s c r a m b l e d

Squared Pairs

$$EE \times EE = II00$$

Each of the letter-pairs in this equation stands for a pair of digits. Can you figure out which digits? (Hint: Paired in a different way, $O+O=E$. And $II00$ is not 1100 .)

Answers on page 46

MAN EATS OWN EAR



From down home delicacies like roasted corn-on-the-cob to Polish sausages and funnel cakes, nothin' could be finer than the food at the Fair. Good thing, because there's so much to see and do, you'll work up quite an appetite. So come join us. We've got just what you're hungry for.



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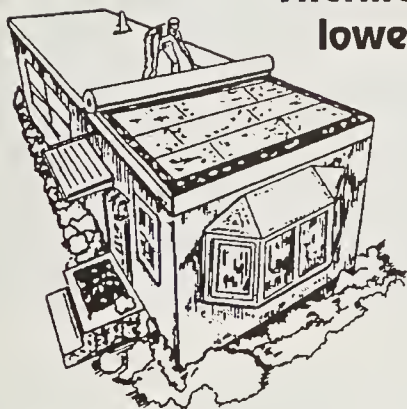
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- ☐ Leaks let water ruin ceiling, walls and floors
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- ☐ Rumbles in winter wind
- ☐ Deteriorates annually

- ☐ Thick insulation retains heat in your home
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- ☐ No condensation forms
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- ☐ Adds to the value of your home



Making Cents of Your Electric Bill

by James Dulley

Running a whole-house fan offers many benefits over continuous air-conditioning. A whole-house fan uses much less electricity. Whereas a typical central air conditioner draws more than 3,000 watts, most whole-house fans draw less than 600 watts. Depending on how often you use it, the overall electricity savings is often more than 50 percent and provides a good payback on your investment.

Many people also prefer to operate a whole-house fan in the evening to improve indoor air quality. With central air-conditioning alone, the air in energy efficient homes gets stale and can actually become unhealthy. A reasonable combination of central air-conditioning and whole-house fan use can provide fresh air while still minimizing the high humidity problems.

Whole-house fans cool a house and improve comfort in three basic ways. First, during times when the outdoor temperature is cooler (usually in the evening and early morning), it draws in fresh air to cool your house. All of the walls, furniture, cabinets, etc. cool down too, so it slows and reduces the natural indoor temperature rise the following day.

Second, the breeze created throughout the house makes you feel cooler and reduces that clammy feeling. Third, since the air from inside the house is exhausted into the attic, the attic temperature is lowered significantly. A roof can reach 150 degrees in the afternoon. This heat is stored in the attic material and radiates down into the house well into the evening.

Although most whole-house fans look similar, there are major differences that affect comfort, sound levels, convenience and overall year-round efficiency. Fan controls affect comfort and convenience the most. Select a model with solid-state, true variable-speed controls and a 12-hour timer. Check sound-deadening features on all the models. These features may be listed on the carton or you can inspect a floor sample. The motor should be mounted in rubber grommets to isolate vibrations from the frame. Some also use a hard rubber fan hub to reduce noise levels. An additional sound-absorbing shroud, made of special chemically treated materials, reduces the noise from the airflow.

The two basic designs of whole-house fans are direct drive and belt drive. On a direct-drive design, the fan

Whole house fans save energy and add comfort



blades attach directly to the motor shaft. The motor is mounted on supports in the center of the fan opening in the ceiling.

Direct-drive fans work well in small to medium-size houses. Many fit perfectly between the joints without any cutting for simple installation. For the easiest installation, choose a model with built-in louver shutters attached to the bottom. These block air leakage when it is not running.

Tamarack makes an easy-to-install double direct-drive fan design. It has super-efficient R-22 insulated shutters above it that open automatically when it starts. Two small fans, side-by-side in one frame, fit snugly between joists on 16-inch centers without cutting.

For a larger house and for extra quiet operation, a belt-drive design is preferred. The motor is mounted on a corner of the frame. This places it out of the direct airflow. These also use steeply pitched blades that turn slower than those of a direct-drive model. This reduces noise and allows for greater airflow capacities — as high as 8,800 cubic feet per minute (cfm).

For someone who wants ventilation at night, but closes the bedroom door for security or privacy, you should install a new, mini one-room fan by Kool-O-Matic. It is only 14 inches in diameter and has a foot-high outlet duct. This allows you to pack attic insulation high around it for efficiency.

It is important to select the proper size whole-house fan and to make sure that there is enough exhaust attic vent area. Generally, a 1,600-square-foot house needs a 4,800-cfm fan. A 2,400-square-foot house needs a 7,200-cfm fan. In a large house or sprawling ranch, install two smaller fans instead of one large one. Divide the total fan cfm rating by 750 to determine the required attic exhaust vent area in square feet.

Send for a buyer's guide of 20 whole-house fans. The guide includes a listing of drive types, sizes, cfm air flow capacities, comfort features, installation instructions and charts of recommended fan sizes and attic vent area. Send \$2 and a business-size self-addressed stamped envelope, and ask for Utility Bills Update No. 880. The address is James Dulley, Carolina Country, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244.

To instantly download the material or to read previous columns, see the Web site at <http://www.dulley.com>.

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Photos by Jane L. Holmes

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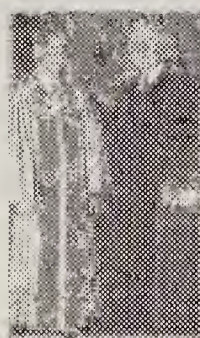
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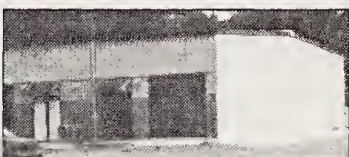
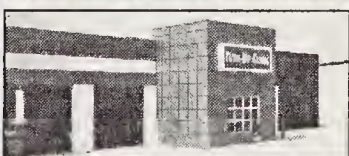
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As I write this, it's been three weeks since Charles Kuralt died unexpectedly on July 4. Since then, I've watched many of the TV retrospectives showing examples of his best work, and absolutely devoured newspaper and magazine tributes to the Wilmington native.

I've felt as if I've lost a dear friend, although I knew Kuralt only through his public image. I met him once but the occasion offered no opportunity for conversation. If we had chatted, I might have asked him how much he knew about his family tree. I've hoped for years that it might be linked to mine because his mother was a Bishop. A few years ago, I finally raised that question with his brother, Wallace, but we could find no link between my family and the Kuralts.

Revisiting some of Charles' brightest TV moments and reading about his achievements helped me cope with my own unsettling sense of loss, but it served a practical purpose as well. I was doing my homework, preparing to write about Kuralt in this space. I felt compelled to do so because he has been such an inspiration to me through the years – and because I appreciate how much he has meant to many of Carolina Country's readers.

I was driven to salute the man but intimidated by the prospect of finding just the right words. That was important to me because Kuralt was such an eloquent wordsmith, choosing his words ever so carefully for his broadcasts and his books. Maybe you didn't notice because you were too busy listening to this master storyteller's tales of ordinary people doing extraordinary things. The words never got in the way of his stories – and neither did Kuralt.

As I watched the familiar "On the Road" reruns and read the tributes from Kuralt's friends and colleagues, I searched for something that might serve as a focal point for this piece—an anecdote or a eulogy that would capture Kuralt's grace and decency. I finally found it in some of Kuralt's own words. They were part of a speech he delivered at UNC's 1985 commencement. I'd written an item about it at the time, and found that piece in my files. Later I discovered the entire text on UNC's web site. (You can find it at <http://alumni.unc.edu>.)

Kuralt, who was a member of UNC class of 1955, admitted that this was his first Chapel Hill commencement.

"I did not quite qualify for attendance at the graduation of my own class," he said. "My mother was disappointed. But this is worth waiting for: a good seat and a chance to make a speech!"

Commencement addresses, he said, are full of advice and he wouldn't depart from that "ancient tradition." In fact, he added: "I have been waiting 30 years for someone to ask my advice – and I wish to thank the class of 1985 for asking."

He pointed out that the human race has come "a good long distance in 30 years, and we have come by many different ways, but the main way was by learning to care about one another. We still have a long way to go, and since you ask my advice, here it is: Care about one another."

Kuralt said the "misplaced priorities of our nation and greed in public life, and the perversion of religion are among the challenges faced by the class of 1985, and I hope that you will prove equal to them."

That hope stems from his faith that "there is, in this world, an association of men and women who, while they may not even know one another, might still be called a conspiracy of good people. Carl Sandburg of Flat Rock, who was one of them, described them as the 'saving minority' – those always willing to be heard when they have to be heard."

At this commencement, Kuralt said, "This university says to us here gathered: Now I give you another class, among whose members are those who know, because they learned it on this hill, that there are purposes and undertakings ahead that are decent and compassionate, and unsullied by arrogance, or hostility toward other people, or delusions of superiority, or motives of greed, and who will embrace those undertakings as members of the saving minority, the conscience of our country, the conspiracy of good people."

"Care about one another, and not only those of your own clan or class or color. I wish you long life and good fortune, of course. But my warmest wish for you is that you be sensitive enough to feel supreme tenderness toward others, and that you be strong enough to show it. This is a commandment, by the way, and not from me.

"I believe it is the highest expression of civilization."

Charles Kuralt: Part of the "Conspiracy of Good People"



Charles Kuralt (left) collaborates with Lexington artist Bob Timberlake on the 1977 book "The Bob Timberlake Collection."

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Hank's Gardening Guide

by Hank Smith

Several garden chores need to be done this month. Bulbs should be at the top of the list. Buy them now for spring beauty.

This is a crucial time for moving broadleaf evergreens. Perennials divided and transplanted in September have time to develop new root growth before cold weather slows them down. This applies to all perennials, but give special attention to crowded daylilies (Hemerocallis) and iris since they can begin to 'choke' as the clump multiplies.

Deciduous plants to be moved before their leaves drop should be treated like evergreens by lifting only with a root ball of soil. Now is an excellent time for a soil test to learn what may be needed. By testing this month, you'll not only "beat the crowd," you'll have ample time to add any conditioners and fertilizers that you may need.

Consult your County Cooperative Extension Office for instructions.



Lawn



Daylilies

Moving day for mums

Chrysanthemums can be transplanted when they are in full flower bud to give instant color to drab areas of an autumn landscape. Three weeks before moving, dig around plants with a sharp spade, severing roots to induce growth of rootlets within the soil ball. Soak soil around plants the day before transplanting. At the same time, dig new holes and soak with water. Place plants in new holes, and firm soil. If weather is hot and dry, spray plants with water each day for several days. If there are drying winds, cover with newspapers to prevent excessive wilting. Mums and asters that tend to grow tall and floppy should be staked now to support long bloom stems in the autumn. Feed plants every 10 days.

Lawns

Sew fescue or rye seed quickly if you are starting or revitalizing a cool-season lawn. Rye grass should not be sown over fescue. It can be seeded over warm-season grasses such as Bermuda and Zoysia. Once seeded, keep it moist.

Autumn planting

Fall-planted trees and shrubs usually have a "head-start" over those planted in the spring. By planting next month, or in November or December, while plants are dormant, roots located deep below the frost line will "take-hold" and become established in the new location

before active growth begins in the spring. Fall and winter-planted stock often is way ahead of spring-planted stock the following summer. They benefit from winter rains, resulting in well-established roots to endure the usual dry periods of the following summer. Dig planting hole at least twice as large as the ball of roots and soil. Prepare hole with such organic matter as peat moss, leaf mold, well-rotted manure, compost, or old sawdust and add extra nitrogen. Apply water to drive out air pockets from around the roots.

Big dahlias are at their peak

After months of careful culture, giant dahlias — the most spectacular flowers of autumn — are beginning to bloom. Some blooms reach fourteen inches across, which makes for an inspiring sight. Yours may be a more modest-natured dahlia. Make certain dahlias are securely staked — winds and thundershowers can play havoc with unsupported dahlias. When cutting, select half open blooms. The best time to cut is early morning or late afternoon. Carry a pail of water into the garden. Cut long stems on a slant, using a sharp knife. Plunge immediately into water; let stand 15 minutes. This forces water up into the hollow stems, which prolongs the life of the cut flower. Keep away from drafts. Cut dahlias will keep in the refrigerator for several days.

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Recipe Sour Cream Coffee Cake

Submitted by Mary Letterman, Raleigh

1 cup butter	½ teaspoon salt
1 cup sour cream	½ teaspoon baking soda
1 cup sugar	1 teaspoon vanilla
3 eggs	½ cup crushed pecans
2 cups plain flour	1 cup brown sugar
2 teaspoons baking powder	1 teaspoon cinnamon

Cream together sugar and butter. Add eggs one at a time. Add vanilla. Sift together flour, baking powder, salt and baking soda. Add dry mixture to creamed mixture alternating with the sour cream. Pour into greased baking dish. Mix together crushed pecans, brown sugar and cinnamon and swirl with fork into mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes.



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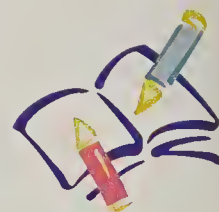
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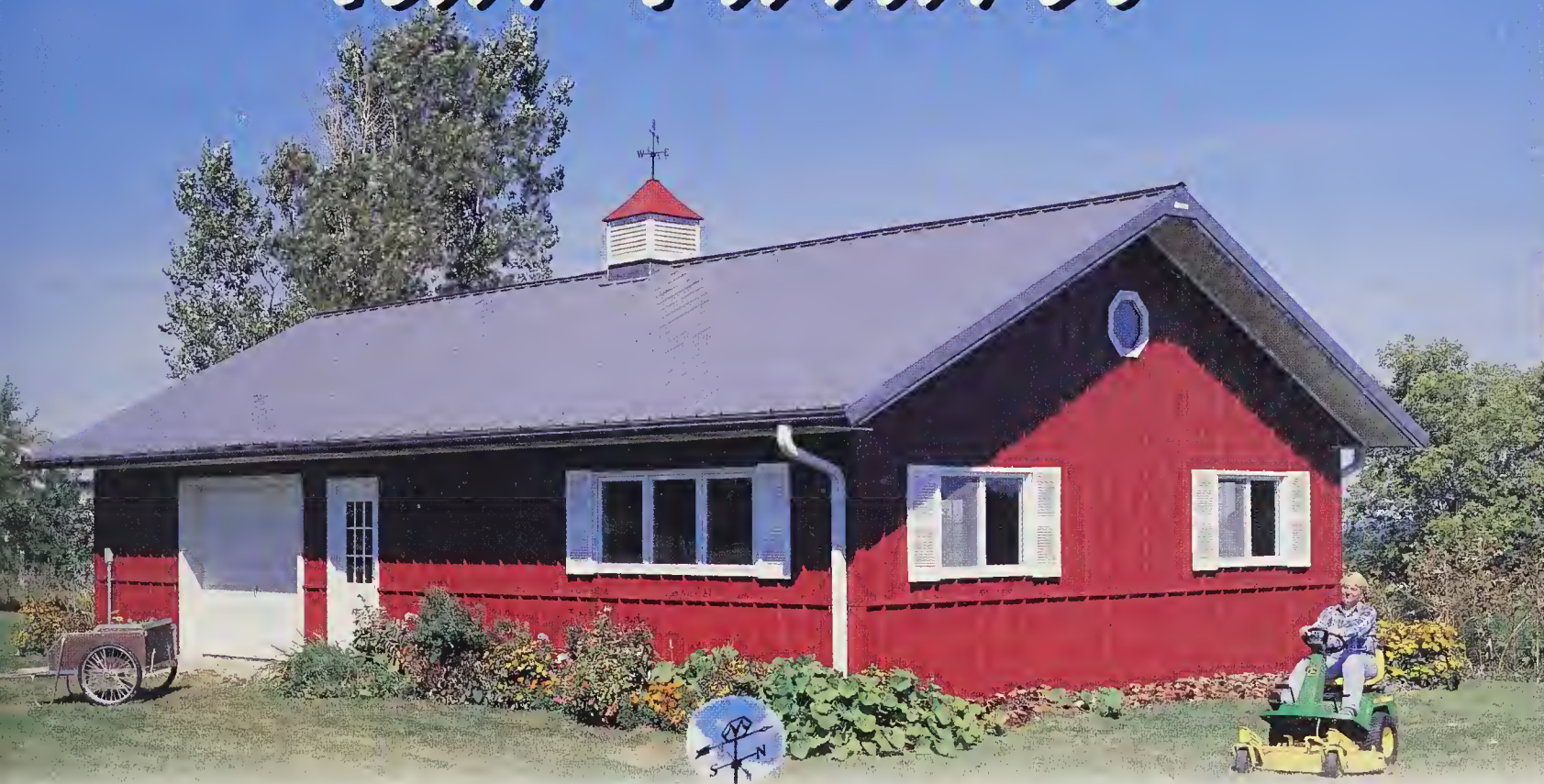
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In Your
Home
and Car**

**NATIONAL ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN
TO ATTRACT NEW CUSTOMERS**

AFFILIATED COMPANIES
20TH YR
OF DIRECT MARKETING SERVICE

**HEALTH
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Better value than others'

~~\$15~~

our price

\$7⁹⁹
regular
model


COMFORT AIR CUSHION

RELIEVES ACHING BACKS

**SPECIALLY DESIGNED FOR
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Relax and help end back pain in your home, office or car. Air Cushion helps end painful pressure on tailbone, back and thighs. Pain-relieving lumbar support is designed to support your lower back. Soft, elegant "velour". Light-weight and super-sturdy.

Deluxe Model
Over 25% Wider
For Extra Comfort.
(see coupon)

Description	Item #	Price Total (check one)
Regular Cushion	L38500	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Regular for \$7.99
Deluxe Cushion (Bigger-Wider-and Better)	L38501	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Deluxe for \$9.99
		SAVE EVEN MORE <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Deluxe \$17
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Make check to HealthHouse USA or charge <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MASTERCARD <input type="checkbox"/> DISCOVER <input type="checkbox"/> AMERICAN EXPRESS (Enter all 13 to 16 card numbers below)  Card # _____		Price Total (from above) \$ _____ Shipping & handling \$ 3.75 *2-Day Express Delivery add \$4.95 to above shpg. & hdlg. \$ _____ Subtotal \$ _____ In NY add sales tax \$ _____ (L38509-02) Grand Total \$ _____

Exp date (Mo) _____ (Yr) _____

Mr/Mrs
Miss/Ms

Address

City/State/Zip

MAIL TO: HealthHouse USA, Inc., Comfort Cushion
Dept. 723-141, Box 9034, Jericho, NY 11753

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516-334-6920

Full one-year money-back guarantee excluding shipping and handling charges. Allow up to 6-8 weeks for shipment. *2-Day Express Delivery-in most cases orders for in stock items will be shipped within 2 business days after we receive and process your order and should arrive 2 business days later. ©1997 HealthHouse USA, Inc., 515 Broadhollow Rd., Melville, NY 11747 (516) 334-2130